

US finds IRA arms link

Five Belfast men who were arrested trying to cross into the United States from Canada are suspected of being part of one of the IRA's most important gun-running rings. The United States Department of Immigration said the men were carrying nearly £10,000 in cash and were travelling on forged Irish passports. *Back page*

Turnabout for number plates

Car number plates will use the present format in reverse when the series of suffix letters denoting year of registration expire next year. A typical plate could read: A 123 BCD. Driving test fees will be increased from £10.30 to £13 from the beginning of next month.

Oil price cuts threat

An emergency meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) is in prospect in order to discuss the dramatic spate of price cutting that is threatening stability on world oil markets.

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School religion 'should stay'

A Commons select committee recommends the retention of the statutory obligation to provide religious education to all pupils, and the continued existence of voluntary denominational schools.

Page 5

Poland reopens universities

Polish universities, which were closed after the imposition of martial law in December, reopened under strict new disciplinary regulations. The Polish authorities, meanwhile, have called for public discussion of a possible resumption of trade union activity.

Page 6

Question on lead is barred

Mr Jeff Rooker, Labour MP for Birmingham, Perry Barr, has been stopped by Whitehall regulations from asking questions in Parliament about the letter of lead-poisoning by Sir Henry Yellowlees, the Government's Chief Medical Officer, published in *The Times* yesterday.

Page 3

Union reform Bill is backed by Williams

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent

to look at the scope for legislation.

Mr Rodgers, describing the Government as intolerable, objectionable and disastrous, said that progress could be made on reform of industrial relations only if the Conservatives had less party political bias and if Mr Varley considered the merits of the case against power and abuse of trade unions.

So at its first important parliamentary test, the leadership of the Social Democratic and Liberal alliance presented a united front in support of industrial relations legislation, even though some of the rank and file diplomatically absented themselves from the division.

There was a lively start to the debate on the Second reading of the Bill, as Mr William Rodgers, for the SDP and one of the gang of four, battled to make himself heard.

Indeed, the attention paid to the alliance by Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, and by Mr Eric Varley, Labour's spokesman, both of whom scored points on the position of the SDP, can only be taken as an indication of the fact in which the new partnership is held to have found its main platform in the House.

None of this, however, could disguise the difficulty for Mr Rodgers of having to support the Government's legislation while at the same time still appearing as the friend of the trade unions.

To loud jeers from the Labour benches Mr Rodgers told the House that he was a recent convert to legislation of that kind. His conversion had come during the winter of 1978-79, when events showed that time was absolutely decisive in making his decision.

He could never have believed that trade unionists would refuse to stand the roads at a strike to life or would prevent people from entering hospital or would refuse to bury the dead.

Yet all those things had happened and he now believed that when trade union abuse reached that level, it was absolutely right and necessary.

Frank Johnson, back page

BR loss running to £150m, unions told

By David Felton

Labour Reporter

of between £50m and £150m, the unions were told.

After the meeting Mr Tom Jenkins, general secretary of TSSA, said that he believed the extra and subsequent losses would lead to cuts in railway mileage, station closures and job losses. "I am very worried about the situation," Mr Jenkins said.

The two unions and members of the British Railways staff who attended the meeting agreed that Sir Peter should write to Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, seeking a meeting when the strikes are over to discuss reclassification.

Mr Ray Buckley, Aslef general secretary, said last night that his union had decided not to attend the Rail Council meeting because "we feel in the present situation it would be hypocritical for BR to call a meeting to explain its financial position when it could easily solve the dispute by honouring the agreement to pay 3 per cent from January and putting the productivity dispute into the normal negotiating machinery."

However, BR officials last night remained adamant that they would not countenance paying the 3 per cent until it was clear that Aslef would honour productivity agreements, particularly on flexible rostering.

Mr Peter told a meeting of the Rail Council, the industry's highest consultative body, which was convened yesterday by Aslef, that BR was at the moment exceeding its external financing limit (the borrowing ceiling set by the Government) by more than £50 million.

If the strikes continue throughout this month, the £50m external financing limit will be exceeded by £90m. Permanent losses of traffic represented revenue shortfalls

Leader page 11

Letters: On the Employment Bill, from Mr John Lyons; European Court of Justice, from Mr H. F. O. Bowes; universities, from Mr R. G. Chapman

Leading articles: Lead in petrol; Madrid conference; agricultural tenancies

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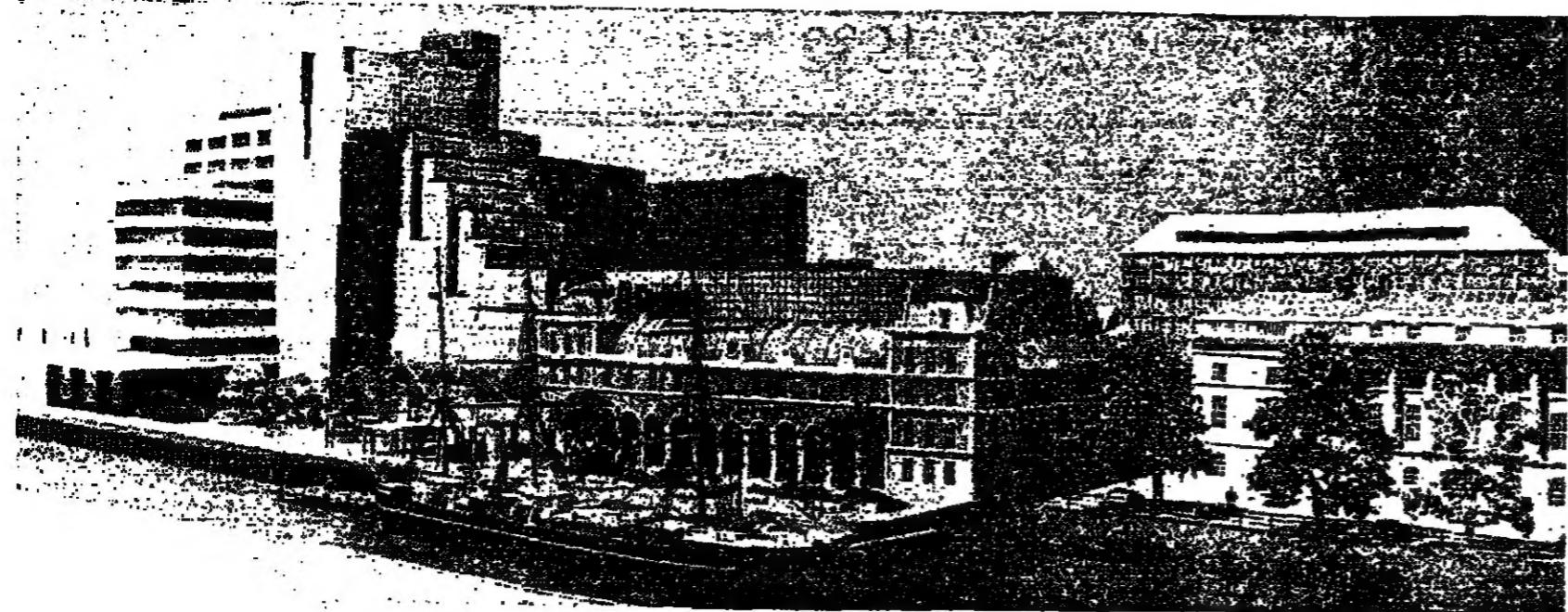
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Harnessing
disease to
introduce
new genes



£75m plan will preserve Billingsgate tradition

This 12-storey office block will be built next to the former Billingsgate fish market, in London, if the City Corporation accepts a planning application disclosed yesterday, writes Hugh Clayton. London & Edinburgh Investment Trust and the S & W Berisford food company said in their joint application

for a £75m development that they would preserve the listed facades of the 110-year-old market. They will also open the site before development to archaeologists, since evidence of a Roman quay and a Saxon harbour has been found nearby. Sales of fresh fish have fallen sharply in the past 20

years as demand has switched to fish fingers and other processed foods.

The market has now moved to London's disused dockland, and the old building near London Bridge will be used for offices. It might house the trading floor of the London Commodity Exchange, and

extend a tradition of markets on the site since Saxon times.

"The core of the present-day building is in a very poor state of repair", the developers said. "The proposals allow for the River Thames and Lower Thames Street facades to be retained and refurbished".

BMA may seek petrol lead cut

By John Witherow

The British Medical Association's Board of Science yesterday described lead taken into the human body as a serious public health hazard and said it may press for further cuts in the amount of lead in the environment.

The BMA's statement was released after a confidential letter was published in *The Times* yesterday from Sir Henry Yellowlees, Chief Medical Officer at the Department of Health and Social Security, who gave a warning that lead in petrol was permanently reducing the IQ of many children.

A spokesman for the BMA said: "On the basis of past scientific evidence the Board of Science believes that lead taken into the human body is a serious public health hazard. The board believes that all sources of lead pollution should be eliminated wherever possible."

The evidence will be put before the BMA council on March 3, when it is likely that further action will be taken. That could mean gathering more medical evidence or making representations.

Professor Thomas Oppo, a paediatrician at St Mary's Hospital Medical School and one of the doctors on the board examining the evidence on lead poisoning, added: "The Board of Science is convinced that low level exposure to lead can be a cause of brain damage. Every effort should be made to reduce lead levels in the environment."

However, medical evidence on lead has been questioned. Mr Giles Shaw, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, said that until more convincing evidence was available the present steps to reduce lead in petrol appeared adequate.

Sir Henry's letter to Whitehall chiefs, giving warning that "some hundreds of thousands of children" were at risk, was sent on March 6 last year. On May 11 the Government announced that lead in petrol would be reduced gradually from 0.40 to 0.15 grams a litre by 1985.

The lead content in petrol is still 0.40g a litre. Australia, the United States, the Soviet Union and Japan have all eradicated lead from petrol. Mr Shaw said that would not be possible in Britain by 1985.

The medical evidence was also questioned by Mr Anthony Fraser, director of the Society of Motor Manufacturers, who said on BBC Radio: "We believe the medical evidence is unanimous. It is divided."

"Motor manufacturers could produce cars that run on lead-free petrol but they are less efficient, likely to consume more fuel and they are generally not as good performers."

Mr Douglas Harvey, director general of the Petroleum Industry Association, said only the government could decide to remove lead from petrol.

□ The Government is to be

asked to publish all the evidence on which it based its decision last year to reduce but not eliminate lead in petrol. (Our Political Reporter writes). The request will be made today by Mr Dennis Howell, Opposition spokesman on environmental pollution, when he meets Mr Shaw.

The Government's decision last year gradually to reduce lead in petrol was attacked by the Opposition and other critics who said that the Government should have eliminated lead in petrol.

At their meeting today, Mr Howell will tell Mr Shaw that Sir Henry's letter, highly relevant in view of his position as the Government's leading medical advisor, should have been made available to Parliament with all the other evidence at the time, the decision was announced.

Government departments repeated yesterday the Sir Henry's views were known at the time of the decision and that his letter was one of the many points considered.

The Government's view was set out by Mr Kenneth Clarke, Under-Secretary of State for Transport, last Friday, and has not been changed, it was said yesterday, by the publication of Sir Henry's letter.

Mr Clarke said last week that the Government would not hesitate to take tougher measures over lead levels "if the balance of evidence does tip in that direction", but he said that at present the

scientific evidence remained equivocal.

He commented: "I am not convinced that it is for the time being realistic to go beyond the impressive action already taken by the Government".

□ The campaign to remove lead from petrol has moved into top gear after the disclosure of Sir Henry's letter. (Our Science Editor writes).

His advice was rejected for commercial reasons. Liquid lead may be added to petrol under the regulations.

The issue looks as if it should be easy to resolve. Lead has no place in the human body. It is harmful if absorbed, unlike other elements which are poisonous in large amounts but are essential in trace quantities.

Yet the controversy is similar to that surrounding the issue of whether to link the evidence showing the link between lung cancer and smoking. Then commercial interests, including the Treasury, tried to place the onus on medical research workers to prove how cigarette smoke caused lung cancer.

The growing number of scientists, doctors, environmentalists and politicians campaigning against lead should, in theory, have an advantage. There is no controversy over the fact that lead is a neurotoxin, a poison which damages the brain.

Leading article, page 11

Dentists protest at charge rise

By Annabel Ferriman

The increase by almost half in dental charges announced by the Government last December would reverse a 20-year trend towards more widespread dental care, representatives of Britain's 14,000 dentists told the Government yesterday.

A delegation from the British Dental Association met Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, to protest about the increases, which come into effect on April 1.

They told Mr Fowler that the health service was being "destroyed by stealth", because the charges were far higher than the rise in the cost of the service. They would mean fewer people going to the dentist.

Mr Ronald Allen, secretary of the association, said dental patients were being asked to shoulder 30 per cent of the cost of the dental service, whereas traditionally charges had paid for between 19 and 23 per cent. Charges paid for only about 3 per cent of the dental service.

Mr Fowler had welcomed

the report of the government-appointed Dental Strategy Review Body last September, which said that a policy of prevention required low charges, yet three months later he had announced the increases.

Under the proposed increases, the maximum charge for routine treatment would rise from £9 to £13

Research council cuts: 2

A helping hand for knowledge

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Truly revolutionary discoveries in science occur only two or three times in a generation. One such advance is the method of genetic engineering being exploited for the production of insulin and the creation of a family of substances — known as monoclonal antibodies — with exciting biological properties for medical purposes.

Even so, the foundation for those discoveries lies in the genius of Francis Crick and James Watson, 25 years ago, in deciphering how the genetic code is passed through generations in the double helix of DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) found in the nuclei of each living cell.

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School religion should be kept, MPs say

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Retention of the statutory obligation to provide religious education to all pupils, and the continued existence of voluntary denominational schools are recommended by the Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts in a report due to be published next week.

The all-party select committee, chaired by Mr Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham, West, considered carefully whether to recommend the repeal of the relevant section of the Education Act, 1944, making religious education the only compulsory part of the school curriculum, particularly in view of the widespread flouting of the law and the increasingly secular and multi-cultural nature of today's society.

The report points out that at present only just over half of all secondary schools provide religious education for all their fourth-year pupils, and nearly a fifth make no provision at all.

However, the evidence to the committee suggested that there was a general view that religious education had the support of parents, and that supporters of a level well beyond that suggested by figures for church going, and even beyond the level of religious belief. Several witnesses had detected a revival of interest in religion among the young.

In addition, Schools Inspectorate had made clear that the compulsory status of religious education had not impeded change and development in the subject.

The Archbishop of Canterbury had suggested that if there were to be any modifications in the law concerning the compulsory curriculum offerings, it should be in the

Woman tells of fight for 'sanity'

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Dilemma in the middle of nowhere

A woman who fought for 22 years to clear her name of the stigma of being certified insane is to launch a campaign to help others wrongfully committed to mental institutions.

Mrs Jean Dhargalkar, aged 68, claims that her cries for help while she was in a mental hospital were obstructed while the authorities planned to certify her.

She accused members of the medical and legal professions of closing ranks to cover up over her case. She said lawyers accepted legal aid for court actions that were bound to fail because they were too late.

Mrs Dhargalkar's story began in 1959, when she fell ill while studying at Hull University. A doctor told her she had an infection.

Two days later she called an ambulance and was taken to hospital, but had to wait nine hours before a gurgulous appendix which had ruptured was diagnosed. She underwent surgery, but was given only a 5 per cent chance of survival.

The after-effects of the operation and a "cocktail" of drugs made her delirious, and within three days she was taken to a mental hospital. She said no one would listen to her story, she was not given proper medical attention, and after five days she was certified insane.

She was detained against her will for a month until her husband flew home from India to obtain her release.

Mrs Dhargalkar said: "When my husband secured my release I was decertified. That means that I was sane, but the certificate still existed."

The only way to have the certificate quashed was through a successful High Court action. But it took 22 years and six firms of solicitors for her to have the certificate declared wrongful.

PRISON FOR INDECENCY WITH BOYS

A riding school manager was sentenced yesterday to four months in prison on charges of gross indecency against teenage boys at the home of Tam Paton, the former manager of the Bay City Rollers.

John Wilson, aged 41, of Mavishank Stables, Loanhead, Lothian, was led weeping from court after being sentenced by Lord Kinraig at the High Court in Edinburgh. He admitted four charges of gross indecency. Eight were not proceeded with when Wilson denied them.

In the dock with Wilson was Paton, of Little Kellars, Gogar, Edinburgh, who faced a number of charges involving teenage boys. The case against him did not go ahead and he will appear at the High Court later.

Advocate Depute Andrew Hardie said the cases against Wilson involved boys aged 13, 15, 16 and 17.

Mr Donald Robertson, QC, for Wilson, said his client had not invited boys to the seashore, they had gone freely.

Unions ask public to back 12% NHS claim

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Union leaders of an estimated one million National Health Service employees yesterday began a campaign to mobilize public opinion against the Cabinet's 4 per cent limit on pay increases.

The TUC Health Services Committee has agreed a "core" claim common to all 17 groups of manual and white collar staff for a 12 per cent increase and a cut in working hours from April 1. Government resistance is expected to be stiff.

The whole concept and intention behind the school act of worship was in danger of falling into disrepute, it said. It calls on the Secretary of State to begin discussions with all interested bodies about the need to give guidance to schools on the matter.

On voluntary denominational schools, whose demise has recently been advocated by both Lord Scarman and the World Council of Churches on the basis that they are socially divisive, the committee says that it recognizes the emphasis given to religious education in such schools, the wider choice they offer to parents, and the contribution they make to the education system. It therefore recommends their continued existence.

On what should be taught in religious education classes, the committee endorses the approach adopted by Norfolk in its agreed syllabus, which places Christianity at the centre, but also introduces pupils to other world religions.

Turning to the Government's proposal for a new single examination system for pupils aged 16-plus to replace CSE and O-level examinations, the committee gives it a cautious welcome, while admitting it involved many dangers.

The Archbishop of Canterbury had suggested that if there were to be any modifications in the law concerning the compulsory curriculum offerings, it should be in the



One Welsh artist salutes another

Mr Jonah Jones, aged 60, the Welsh artist, sculptor and writer, finishing the panel commemorating Dylan Thomas that is to be laid in the floor of Poet's Corner at Westminster Abbey on March 1, St David's Day, more than 28 years after Thomas's death. The lines

come from the end of "Fern Hill", Thomas's lyrical evocation of his childhood, a fitting epitaph to the talent that finally drowned in alcoholic poisoning at age of 39 (Nicholas Timmins writes).

Mr Jones, the Gregynog Art Fellow at the University of Wales,

says the 3 cwt slab is of Penrhyn green slate, an extremely hard stone whose colour suits the imagery of the lines and the poet. It is the same stone from which the memorial to Lloyd George in the Abbey, also the work of Mr Jones, is made.

Luggage tickets 'reissued'

British Rail lost thousands of pounds as employees at Victoria station's lost luggage office systematically reissued used tickets, Inner London Crown Court was told yesterday.

Frederick Shorey, aged 39, of Eswyn Road, Tooting, and Dharma Vythelingam, aged 40, of Steerforth Street, Earlsfield, south London, both denied conspiring to steal from the British Railways Board between January 1978, and November, 1980.

A third man, Sydney Canning, aged 55, of Crompton Road, Penge, changed his plea to guilty and was remanded until the end of the trial.

Mr Peter Cooper, for the

prosecution, told the jury that the three men, with others, pooled their profits in a plastic cup and shared them out each evening.

In 1980 large numbers of police officers deposited suitcases, taking note of the ticket serial numbers before collecting their luggage and handing them in. Members of the public who had left baggage at the office were stopped and their tickets checked.

The police estimated that between 40 and 50 per cent of all tickets were dishonestly reissued.

Mr Cooper said dishonest earnings could be as high as £6 an hour.

The trial continues today.

Race hatred claim

By Lucy Hodges

Mr Russell Proffitt, the black councillor in Lewisham, has sent a copy of the latest issue of *National Front News* to Scotland Yard inviting them to prosecute for incitement to racial hatred.

In a letter to the police Mr Proffitt says that he found the journal, which was put through his letterbox, "deeply offensive". On page one there was a handwritten message: "Don't blame the white's for New Cross fire, thick lips".

The journal contained articles about positive discrimination (described as

"anti-white, anti-British inverted racism and corruption") and about the Home Office report on racial attacks "instigated by black community groups and by a front organization of the Board of Deputies of British Jews".

It is difficult to secure the Attorney General's consent to prosecute for incitement to racial hatred and Section 5A of the Public Order Act is now under review by the Government. A recent pamphlet from the Runnymede Trust said the law was a failure and should be changed to make prosecution easier.

Support claim for succession Bill

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

Mr Michael English, Labour MP for Nottingham, West, predicted yesterday that a majority of MPs would support his attempt to end discrimination against women in the law of succession to the throne.

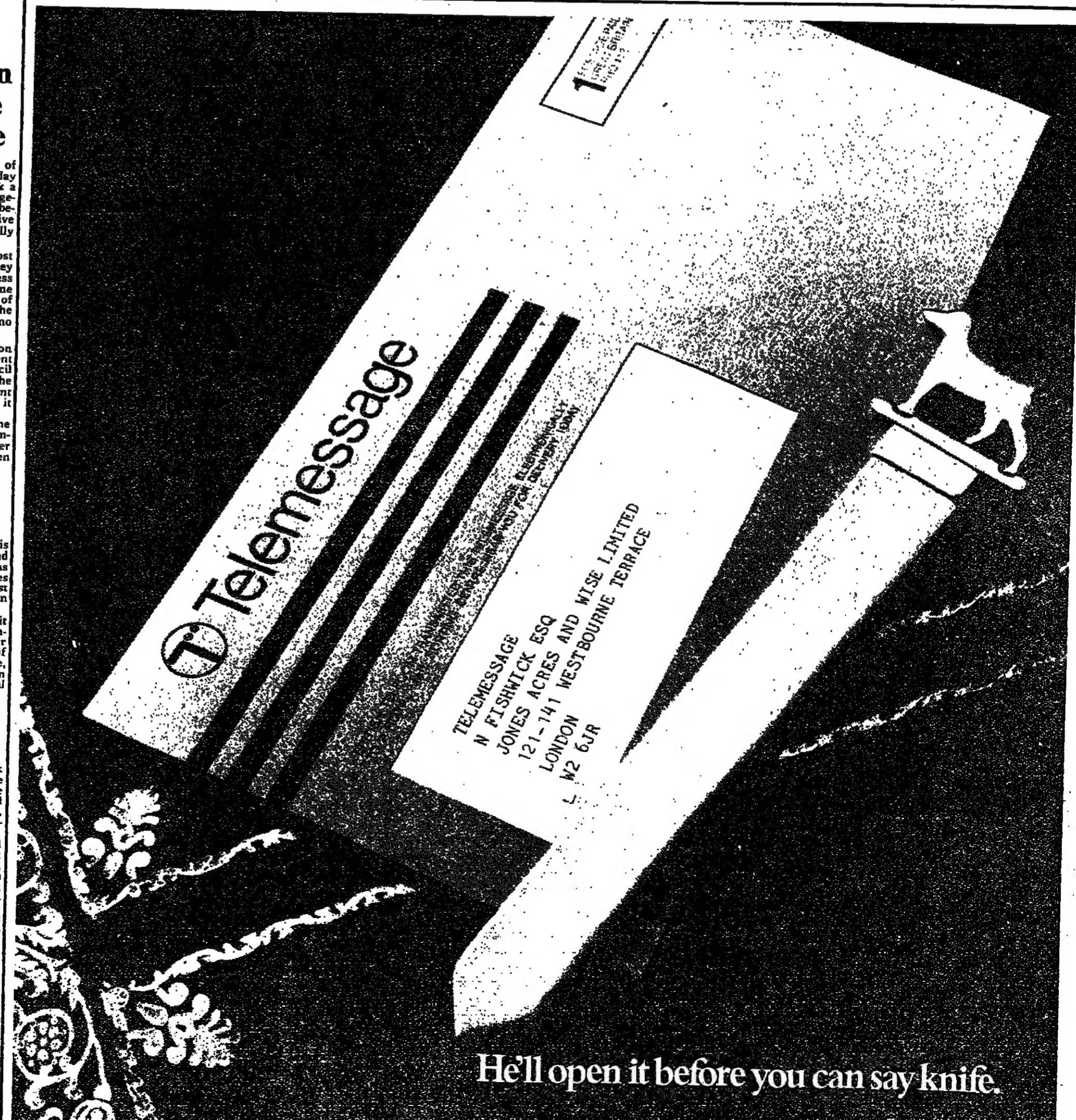
Mr English's Succession to the Crown Bill, published yesterday, would change the law so that elder sisters would not be outranked in the line of succession by their younger brothers.

The Bill, which has backing from Labour, Conservative, Liberal and Social Democrat MPs, would mean that the first child of the Prince and Princess of Wales would be an heir apparent, irrespective of its sex.

Mr English admitted that if the child, due in June, was a boy the whole issue was deferred for a generation, but if the child is a girl it became more urgent. Under present law she would become heir, remain heir if she had a younger sister but cease to be heir if she had a younger brother.

Mr English has written to Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the prime ministers of the 16 other Commonwealth countries of which the Queen is monarch, asking whether they disagree with his proposal, or would wish to legislate in similar terms, or would consent to his Bill extending to their countries.

Without Government support the chances of the Bill coming before the Commons for debate in this session are not bright. It is down for second reading on February 26, but is preceded on the Commons order paper that day by a Bill to abolish the rating system, which is expected to take up the entire day's sitting. Thereafter Mr English's Bill will fall in precedence.



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NEWS IN
SUMMARYWhite MP
ordered to
stay in jail

Salisbury.—Mr Wally Stuttaford, the white MP detained in Zimbabwe for two months under an emergency powers order which has just expired, has been served with another order under which he can be held indefinitely (Stephen Taylor writes). It was served on Mr Stuttaford, 64, in his cell at Chikurubi maximum security prison.

The expiry of the original order required the authorities to release him in the absence of evidence to substantiate allegations that he was plotting with dissident supporters of Mr Joshua Nkomo to overthrow the government or keep him under detention.

Mr Stuttaford, a member of Mr Ian Smith's Republican Front, may now appeal to a judicial tribunal; but its recommendations can be overruled by the Minister of Home Affairs. When he was arrested in Bulawayo on December 10, Government leaders, including Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, said he would be brought to trial shortly.

Palestinian guns
hit private jet

Beirut.—A Swiss executive jet made an emergency landing here with fuel spilling from its wing after being hit by Palestinian anti-aircraft fire aimed at Israeli military aircraft. The twin-engine 36-seat Lear jet operated by Aeropac Leasing of Geneva, flew into the range of the anti-aircraft canons at 1,200ft while making an approach to Beirut airport. No body was hurt.

New curbs on
Czechoslovakians

Prague.—Czechoslovakia has imposed new travel restrictions that are likely to reduce further visits to the West, according to official press reports here.

The daily *Smeana* said that longstanding regulations allowing Czechoslovakians one trip to the West every three to five years have been dropped by the Prague authorities.

Strike called in
South Africa

Some of South Africa's biggest black trade unions have called for a half-hour, national strike on Thursday to mourn the death in prison of Dr Neil Aggett, the white trade unionist who was found hanged in his cell at security police headquarters in Johannesburg early last Friday (Michael Hornsby writes).

The call was made by the multiracial (though predominantly black) African Food and Canning Workers' Union, of which Dr Aggett was the Transvaal secretary and supported by the Federation of South African Trade Unions, which has a mainly black membership of more than 90,000.

Doctors in big
medical fraud

Canberra.—Fraud and abuse of Australia's medical insurance system by doctors is widespread, according to an internal Health Ministry report leaked to journalists. The Australian Medical Association had estimated that 900 of the country's 27,000 doctors were involved by the opposition Labor Party—and that 2,500 doctors were suspected. The Government has already announced that it would take action against doctors claiming for treatment not given.

Silence over US
radiation claim

New York.—The Pentagon refused to comment on reports that radiation records on thousands of soldiers who observed atomic tests in the 1950s were falsified.

Mr Van R. Brandon, a former member of the army medical corps, claimed that the real readings were kept in a secret "hot book" that was held under lock and key by high ranking officers. He said he believed that the radiation readings recorded in the book were above the accepted safe levels—some being 50 per cent higher.

Saudi Arabia to
make US arms

Riyadh.—Mr Caspar Weinberger, the United States Defence Secretary, said after meeting Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia that it was likely that the two countries would jointly produce American weapons.

He said the Saudis had submitted a number of requests for sophisticated weapon systems.

Preger trial date

Calcutta.—Magistrates have set February 20 as the trial date for Dr Jack Preger, the British medical worker among the Calcutta poor, who is opposing a deportation order. Dr Preger has been given notice under the Foreigners Act.

Child seeks refuge

Port Louis, Mauritius.—An 11-year-old child, whose father is a Mauritian and whose mother is a Soviet citizen, took refuge in the Soviet Embassy here demanding to go to the Soviet Union to see his mother. The father was later given custody

Classes reopen
at Polish
universities

Warsaw, Feb 8.—Polish universities resumed full-time classes today after months of interruption caused by strikes and martial law.

Conditions seemed calm at Warsaw University and security patrols, at their usual strength in the streets, were not seen on the campus.

Students, some wearing traditional white four-cornered caps, entered the main gate without restriction but had to show identity cards to university employees when going into their faculty buildings or sign a roster if they were from another faculty.

Meanwhile, the Polish authorities, who suspended Solidarity and other trade unions when martial law was imposed eight weeks ago, have called for public discussion of a possible resumption of union activity.

The discussion will focus on a report which the Government has instructed a committee under Mr Mieczyslaw Rakowski, the deputy Prime Minister, to produce later this month. The call for the report and discussion was announced in a Government statement published today by Polish newspapers.

As tension subsided, the military authorities began reopening colleges last month, starting with engineering, scientific, cultural and medical schools. But they delayed resumption of classes in universities specializing in the humanities long regarded as potential centres of student unrest.

All traces of Solidarity and the closely-allied independent students' association NZS had disappeared from the university grounds in Warsaw. A long notice board near the main gate, once covered with uncensored posters and dissenting tracts, was all but bare.

The only notices displayed were an appeal for aid to flood victims, regulations on the conduct of student hostels under martial law, and several quotations from speeches by General Wojciech Jaruzelski, head of the military regime. Most students said they were happy to be back but acknowledged

Nato stays its hand on
Warsaw sanctions

By David Cross

With the notable exception of Britain, Nato member governments are taking their time in announcing any measures they might take to mark their disapproval of military rule in Poland.

But, according to reports from a number of West European capitals, other members of the Nato alliance have simply paused for "a moment of reflection", as the Italian Government puts it. In due course, they indicate, they too will follow the lead set by President Reagan at the end of last year.

The West German Government, which had been among the most reluctant to introduce sanctions against either the Soviet Union or Poland has promised that further measures (Bonn prefers to talk about "measures" rather than "sanctions") will not be delayed indefinitely.

On the other hand, France has joined its Nato partners in promising not to undermine the effectiveness of the American ban on exports of high technology to the Soviet Union. Similar strategic exports to Poland have been stopped.

Like all the Nato governments with the exception of Greece, the Italians are refusing to extend new credits to Poland and are trying to ensure that humanitarian aid reaches the Polish people by channelling it through such international organizations as Caret and the Red Cross. Apart from these "minor moves" it is not entirely clear what further measures are under consideration.

The Belgian Government which has so far adopted only the measures agreed by member governments of the EEC (suspension of credits to Poland, etc) is contemplating some diplomatic steps if restrictions on its own representatives in Poland are not eased in the near future.

Among the various political measures being considered by the French Government is the restriction on the movement of Polish diplomats and journalists, similar to those announced last Friday by Britain. The French Government has also said that it will raise the Polish question at the Madrid security conference this week. In addition there will be a distinct slowing

of the United States will undoubtedly wait until all its Nato partners have released their hands before it makes any public pronouncements. Washington appears to have accepted the inevitability of something far less stringent.

Provided that all the main allies produce some sanctions within the coming days it seems likely that Washington will pronounce itself reasonably satisfied.

Reuter.

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RE

Egypt asks
for return
of Sphinx's
beard

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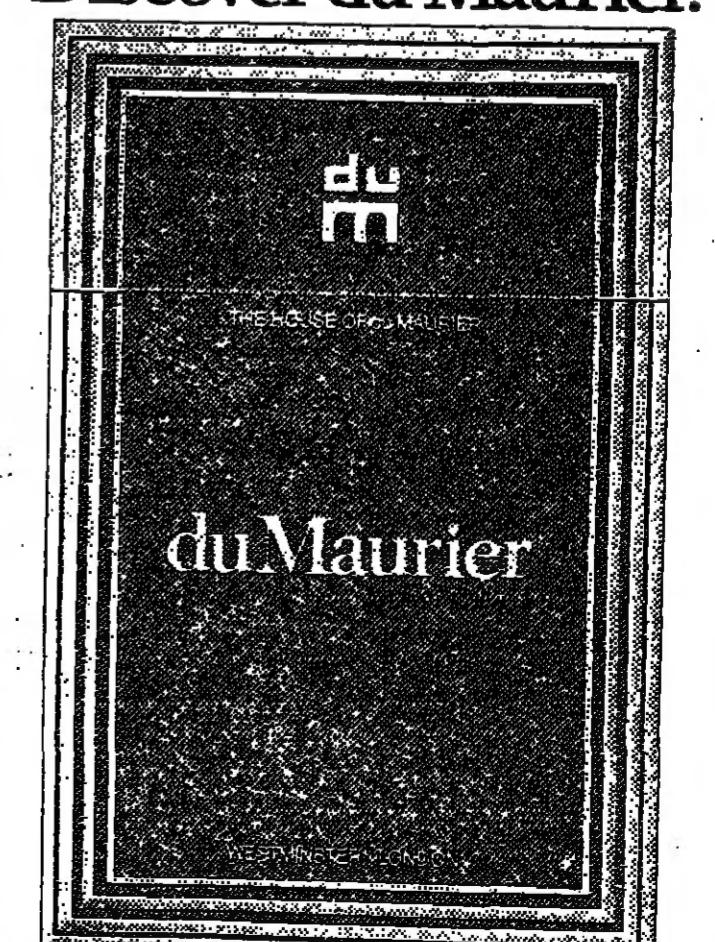
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LOW TAR Manufacturer's estimate

DANGER: H.M. Government Health Departments' WARNING:
THINK ABOUT THE HEALTH RISKS BEFORE SMOKING.

US shifts human rights policy to Eastern block

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Feb 8

The Reagan Administration, in its first report on human rights around the world, is sharply critical of the Soviet Union and its activities in Poland and Afghanistan.

The report also condemns human rights abuses in countries which follow pro-Western policies, such as South Africa, Taiwan and Zaire as well as Latin American nations.

The 1,142 page report, which has been submitted to the Senate foreign relations committee, is similar in many respects to the human rights report compiled by the Carter Administration during its final days in office. The tone and language used about some pro-Western nations has been softened in some cases, but the report documents abuses committed by friends as well as foes.

When the Reagan Administration came to office last year there were fears that human rights would no longer be given the attention they were under President Carter. As Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, said at the time: "International terrorism will take the place of human rights as a priority concern."

The report, which bears the imprint of Mr Elliott Abrams, the recently-appointed Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights,

emphasises that Administration condemnation of human rights abuses by the Soviet Union would only be credible if the United States also addressed human rights violations by its communist allies", the report says.

The document contains country by country reports covering 159 nations. Its strongest language is reserved for the Soviet Union, where repression of political dissidents grew worse in 1981, with about 10,000 dissidents believed to be imprisoned, exiled or undergoing forced labour. Four million Soviet citizens were reported undergoing forced labour.

The report states there are compelling reasons to believe the Polish authorities acted under strong Soviet pressure in imposing martial law on December 13. At least 5,000 people were being detained in Poland, only a few of whom had been formally charged.

The report found however, that in several East European nations people were relatively well off in terms of civil rights and economic progress.

The report gives warning that pro-Western countries were being singled out for condemnation while equal or greater violations of human rights in Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union and Cuba went virtually unnoticed.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Salvador guerrillas withdraw

San Salvador. — Left wing guerrillas in El Salvador have withdrawn from around the eastern city of Usulután after a week of heavy fighting with government troops.

Units of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front staged an orderly withdrawal under cover of darkness after a successful week-long mission, their radio said.

Scores of government troops died in the clashes which occasionally spread to the outskirts of the city, El Salvador's fourth largest, officials said. Guerrilla casualties were also high, they added.

Jakarta expels Soviet attaché

Jakarta. — Indonesia has expelled a Soviet diplomat and arrested a Soviet citizen on spying charges, the Foreign Ministry said. Sources said Mr S. P. Egorov, the Soviet assistant military attaché was caught receiving an important document from an Indonesian military official who was not identified.

The arrested Soviet citizen was identified as Mr Alexander Finenko, head of the Aeroflot office in Jakarta, and was alleged to be a senior KGB agent.

Disaster victims demand homes

Naples. — About 200 survivors of the 1980 earthquake in southern Italy occupied the town hall in Ercolano to demand housing and jobs. They barricaded themselves in the building, keeping administrators and employees from going to work.

The earthquake killed 2,700 people and made hundreds of thousands homeless on November 23, 1980. Many are spending their second winter in temporary housing.

Malta electoral changes sought

Valletta. — Dr Edward Fenech Adami, leader of Malta's Nationalist Party, which obtained a majority of votes, but a minority of parliamentary seats in December's general election, has called for a fresh election on a date to be agreed between his party and Mr Dom Mintoff's governing Malta Labour Party (Austin Sammut writes).

Chinese admit errors in love

Peking. — An official Chinese magazine has admitted it had been wrong in condemning fiction which describes love between Chinese and foreigners as pornographic.

The English-language weekly *Beijing Review* said a highly puritanical article it published last December "fails clearly and accurately to represent the opinions of Chinese literary critics with regard to themes of love between Chinese and foreigners".

A bit dim

Moscow. — A Soviet factory which made 13,000 pairs of sunglasses so dark that even the sun was obscured to their wearers and produced more than 3,000 plastic footballs that burst when they were kicked, has been named by Tass as an example of the indifferent management plaguing Soviet industry.

Opposition wins in Costa Rica poll

San José, Feb 8. — The latest official returns in Costa Rica's presidential election today showed Señor Luis Alberto Monge of the National Liberation Party ahead by a wide margin.

Results, with half of the count completed, gave Señor Monge's party, which leans towards social democratic views, nearly double the total of its nearest rival in polling for the presidency and parliament.

The outgoing president Señor Rodrigo Carazo, who is barred by law from seeking re-election, sent Señor Monge a message wishing him "success in your new responsibilities as President" and offering cooperation in the transition of power.

Señor Monge told journalists at his home: "I am not headed toward a great election victory but toward great responsibilities and great challenges."

He has blamed the economic woes of Costa Rica, which has had more than 30 years of democratic rule, on Señor Carazo. The country has a huge foreign debt of \$2,600m and a declining currency. Señor Monge has promised to cut public spending, seek foreign investment and eliminate waste.

In the past 18 months, Costa Rica has faced inflation

Strike fails to paralyse Belgium

From Ian Murray, Charleroi, Feb 8

There was comfort for both Government and unions in today's general strike, which failed to bring more than a few areas of Belgium to a total halt.

Of the big towns it was here in Charleroi, where unemployment is already over 20 per cent and the giant steelworks are most threatened by the "rationalisation" plans for the industry, that the strike call was most heard.

Only three of the restaurants which ring the big square in front of the town cultural centre were open for lunch, and there were few customers. Banks, schools and department stores were closed.

Down the Meuse at Charleroi, the great chimneys from the steelworks continued to belch smoke keeping the furnaces ready for the next day's work; but there were no steelmen to be seen. Elsewhere in industry only skeleton staff turned out for work.

Charleroi alone, however, could qualify to be described as a ghost town for the day. In Namur a demonstration of about 1,000 gathered outside the town hall. In Liège about 20 cars flying large red banners drove slowly through the streets. Outside large banks and insurance offices stood small groups of pickets to deter blacklegs but none seemed to have bothered to turn up.

This was the picture almost exclusively in French-speaking Wallonia. In Flanders to the north the strike call had very little effect on anything but train services, which were severely delayed. The giant port of Antwerp continued to work, as did most of industry and the public services.

Brussels itself, like Wallonia, had virtually no public transport. Garbage collection and postal services were disrupted. Hospitals and schools were unable to function normally.

The Government branded the strike call from the start as political.

Prisoners of conscience

From Caroline Moorehead, Addis Ababa, Feb 8

The power now is in the courts, in government offices and state legislatures; sometimes it is in the boardrooms of energy companies because of the priceless bounty that lies beneath some of the reservations.

The Sioux in recent years have become far more sophisticated in their battle for the return of stolen lands, but in

Watchdog proposed for Anglo-Malaysian ties

From David Watt, Kuala Lumpur, Feb 8

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, has suggested to Malaysia that future economic and political difficulties between the two countries might be avoided if a joint commission were set up.

Malaysia has not immediately responded to the idea but has agreed to study it. One senior official reacted positively to the idea.

The formula for easing problems between Britain and Malaysia is similar to the system adopted with Saudi Arabia after the showing on British television of the controversial film *Death of a Princess*. But in the case of Malaysia the proposed body would be composed of officials from the Foreign Office and the Department of Trade.

The proposal is but a small step on the way to solving what has become a serious barrier to British trade with Malaysia. Datuk Sri Mahathir Mohamad, the Prime Minister, ruled last October that whenever there was an alternative, British goods would not be bought.

Today's meeting between the Foreign Secretary and Dr Mahathir, though described by both sides as being cordial, brought no immediate prospect that economic relations would improve. As one observer said of the meeting: "It might have been a waste of time."

Detainees are allowed two or three visits a year, but may receive food and write letters. They are denied contact with other imprisoned members of their families: some 200 former government officials with their wives and children are still detained in this manner.

Some time ago, Rebecca Asrate developed a severe skin disease, which results in extensive peeling. The authorities have denied her the medical treatment she now seriously needs.

Changing face of the Sioux

Little pride left in Pine Ridge

From Christopher Thomas, Oglala Sioux Reservation, Pine Ridge, South Dakota

Pine Ridge is a dishevelled wreck of a place that some people describe as a town. It contains a bedraggled assortment of 7,000 confused and bitter Sioux Indians struggling, and usually failing, to find a semblance of self-respect.

Regret is expressed about what seems to be a deteriorating situation in Latin America, but notes that in El Salvador there had been a downward trend in political violence; although human rights violations by left and right continued to be numerous.

According to United States Embassy data cited in the report, the strife in El Salvador claimed at least 6,116 lives last year. However, it notes that church sources put the death toll among non-combatants at twice that level.

Other nations singled out for criticism were China, Taiwan, South Korea, Israel, Egypt, Turkey, Zaire, Uganda and Pakistan. The Administration has been required to produce an annual report since the 1970s.

Mr Alexander Haig, in an interview published today, rejected the idea that there was any parallel between United States involvement in Central America and in Vietnam (Mohsin Ali writes).

In an unlikely office down



Legendary hero Red Cloud (above) and (below) Fool's Crow, today's relic.

one of the side streets a single, overworked, Oglala Sioux lawyer is the focus of a seemingly hopeless and somewhat pathetic attempt to regain seven million acres of land, including the sacred Black Hills of South Dakota, stolen by the white man 104 years ago. The return of the land, he says, is all that will restore dignity and honour to the demoralized Oglala, biggest of the Sioux tribes.

Tribal leaders estimate that there is 80 per cent unemployment on Pine Ridge reservation. The Government-sponsored factories making nonsense items like moccasins, arrows and fish hooks barely make an impression. There is chronic alcoholism, drug abuse, and a deep resentment at the deeds of the white man.

Chief Fool's Crow, the traditional chief and religious leader, surveys the decadent scene from his house deep in the naked, treeless countryside. He laments the drinking. "When I pray every day I want my mind to be clear and sharp. I do not want to close it up."

He fetches a ceremonial pipe, holding it gently in aged withered hands. "It was the pipe of Crazy Horse. When he was bayoneted by the soldiers at Fort Robinson he slipped it to a young Indian. Many years later the sacred pipe made its way to me."

Tribal power has moved decisively from chiefs like Fool's Crow. It has also moved from bloody conflicts in the cherished Black Hills, the last of which was in 1973 when the Sioux seized the village of Wounded Knee. Two died and 300 were arrested in the 71-day occupation.

The power now is in the courts, in government offices and state legislatures; sometimes it is in the boardrooms of energy companies because of the priceless bounty that lies beneath some of the reservations.

Apart from restoration of the Black Hills, which are tantalizingly close to Pine Ridge. As everybody here knows, Custer has a great deal to do with their seizure.

particular for the return of the Black Hills, which are tantalizingly close to Pine Ridge. As everybody here knows, Custer has a great deal to do with their seizure.

Battles with the gold hunters culminated in June 1876, with Siting Bull's victory over Custer in Montana. Oglala history teachers today tell of the

Briton in Tokyo fire sought by police

From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo, Feb 8

A fire which killed 32 guests and injured 24 others in a hotel in central Tokyo early today could have been started by an electrical fault or a cigarette end in a ninth floor room occupied by a Briton, according to police.

The man who occupied room 938 of the New Japan hotel, is being sought by police who said he could be in a state of shock somewhere in Tokyo, or he may have died in the fire, described as one of Tokyo's worst.

Many of the victims, trapped on ledges of the ninth and tenth floors, jumped to their deaths as flames swept the length of the hotel. Most of those trapped in their rooms and corridors died of suffocation. Police identified one of the victims as Mr Kim Tai Dong, aged 63, a former South Korean Minister for Health and Social Affairs.

Mr Susumu Fukunaga, an hotel employee aged 32, said he noticed smoke pouring from under the door of room 938. "I first went down stairs and told the front desk that a fire appeared to have broken out. I then returned to the ninth floor. I heard a voice in room 938 crying for help. I opened the door with a master key. The room was filled with smoke. There was a naked foreigner in the room. The man rushed out and that is the last time I saw him", Mr Fukunaga said. The police claimed that an electrical fault or a cigarette end could have started the fire.

A spokesman at the British Embassy refused to comment on the issue but said the man was not registered with the embassy. "The consul is waiting to hear from the police. That is all I can say", he said.

Ninety fire engines were called to the area to contain the fire. The eighth, ninth and tenth floors of Japan's leading Westernized luxury hotels were destroyed. A spokesman for Tokyo's fire department criticised the management of the hotel, claiming the building lacked proper fire-fighting equipment.

"In spite of repeated warning the Management had failed to install water sprinklers in rooms and corridors of the three top floors of the hotel. The staff failed to guide the guests out of the hotel and the alarms were not sounded", a spokesman for the fire department said.

Some tribes said they would take their share. Others, like the Oglala and Cheyenne Sioux, say they will pursue their long battle for a glorious part in his demise.

But after that the Indians were spent. They ran out of ammunition and horses and could not hunt. They were in peril of starvation. Thus it was that the Sioux were coerced by an Act of Congress into giving up vast tracts of land in exchange for federal aid.

As compensation the courts have awarded \$17m (£8.6m), the estimated value of the territory when it was taken away. With 5 per cent a year interest, the final amount was \$105m divided between the various Sioux tribes.

The United States Congress seized most of the Sioux land in 1877. It was a direct violation of the Fort Laramie treaty of nine years earlier which set aside the Black Hills, plus a vast area besides, for "the absolute, undisturbed use and occupation" of the 60,000 Sioux.

But two years after the treaty an expedition headed by Custer discovered gold, and from that moment the white man found that he also had a special devotion to the beautiful, pine-clad Black Hills.

Battles with the gold hunters culminated in June 1876, with Siting Bull's victory over Custer in Montana. Oglala history teachers today tell of the

money is now in interest-bearing bank accounts awaiting collection. "And it can stay there," Mr Gonzales said. "The Black Hills alone are worth \$50,000m because of their fabulous deposits of uranium and gold."

He spoke of a "forcible occupation" of the Black Hills as a possible last resort, but for now the struggle is being conducted on white man's terms.

Only 19 of the 32 charred bodies have been identified. The police said the body of one Caucasian had been found but he has not been identified. Most of those identified were Taiwanese or South Koreans.

An American woman, who was trapped on the ninth floor, broke her pelvis and both arms when she jumped four stories on to the roof of the concourse. She is in a critical condition in hospital.

The hotel, which was built 22 years ago, can house 2,900 people. However, only 350 guests were in the hotel when the fire broke out.

On 19 of the 32 charred bodies have been identified. The police said the body of one Caucasian had been found but he has not been identified. Most of those identified were Taiwanese or South Koreans.

As with society at large, the situation is one of stagnation and decline. The economy is not growing, and the rate of inflation is high. The government is trying to combat this by increasing interest rates, but this has not been effective. The result is that the economy is slowing down, and the rate of inflation is still high.

On the other hand, the government is trying to encourage investment by offering tax incentives. This has been successful, but it has not been enough to reverse the decline in investment.

On the political front, the government is trying to improve its image by addressing the issues of corruption and inefficiency. This has been partially successful, but there is still a long way to go.

On the social front, the government is trying to improve the quality of life for the people. This has been partially successful, but there is still a long way to go.

On the environmental front, the government is trying to protect the environment. This has been partially successful, but there is still a long way to go.

On the cultural front, the government is trying to promote the arts and culture. This has been partially successful, but there is still a long way to go.

On the international front, the government is trying to improve its relations with other countries. This has been partially successful, but there is still a long way to go.

From Peter Heslop
Tokyo, Feb 9

After a fire at the British Embassy in Tokyo, police have been searching for the Briton who started it. The Briton, a man in his 20s, was seen leaving the embassy on the night of the fire. He was last seen in a nearby bar. The fire was started by a cigarette butt.



Some new liaisons on the way

As with society, so with the suit: couples that once seemed inseparable split up, forge fresh links and then re-form into new partnerships.

A Spring suit used to mean a jacket and skirt. The trouser suit was the first challenge to this traditional coupling. Now pants suits, and especially the evening tuxedo, are part of fashion's family. The culotte skirt is the new love in the life of your old jacket, with culotte suits one of the snappiest Spring outfits. You can find blazer and bermudas stepping out together or divided

skirts courting waistcoats. Tunics make up to trousers or to slim skirts. Short, curly jackets partner long, soft skirts.

The basic silhouette of the suit has changed this season. Jackets are shorter, crispier and remind me of those perky bell boys who stand to-toyton attention in smart hotels.

The French have a word for the new jacket shape, which Paris is backing strongly. They call it "le spencer" supposedly after a jacket introduced by the Second Earl Spencer in the nineteenth century. I doubt whether his illustrious descendant will be wearing the short, waist-hugging jacket in her present condition. But perhaps in deference to the Royal connexion, most of the British spencer jackets are being made in Prince of Wales check.

The short jacket ushers in a new mood of tailoring and

brings with it a host of bell captain details. The wing-collared shirt takes over from the frilled neck as the shirt of the season. The stick pin at the throat is strangling the pearl choker. Both the waistcoat and the belted waist are in favour.

The sharp, spare silhouette is pointed up by the use of checked and striped fabrics, often mixed within one outfit. Thus a striped shirt has a plain round white collar; a bookie's check waistcoat goes under a quiet check jacket; ticking striped linen jackets with a plain skirt.

In spite of the masculine fabrics, it all adds up to a fresh and surprisingly feminine look for the suit which stuck for so long with the blazer shape. Even if funds do not run to investing in a new outfit, you can follow the new line by putting a fitted spencer waistcoat, pointed at the

front like a steward's uniform, under your existing suit.

If you are buying new, you must demand that your suit works hard for you. The suit that stays together is no longer the mainstay of your wardrobe. Each piece should divide and reform with the rest of your separates so that you get maximum wear for what must be a major investment.

I think that there is a lot to be said for buying three items of related separates from the companies like ALEXON, PLANET and KELDAN, who specialize in this field and whose collections are in major stores. A jacket, waistcoat and skirt, or trousers as well as a skirt, or culottes in addition to a regular skirt/pants, will maximize your suit's fashionable life.

Accessories have undergone a sea-change since one pair of plain court shoes and matching

bag partnered your suit. The steward's white gloves add a perky touch to a season that builds on black and white. Broad leather belts, often with a narrow buckle strap, define the waist. Fancy mesh or striped tights enliven plain legs. Shoes are universally low-heeled and look newest in shiny patent or with co-respondent contrasts.

The new surge of life through the suit and the wester of dapper details, is a boon for working women who have felt neglected during the elaborations of the ethnic layers or the rush for romance.

I have often thought that the much heralded Death of the Suit was going to mean the death of all of us, since we were expected to make the leap out of woolies and into flimsy cottons at the end of January. The suit, in all its guises, is tailor made for spring.

Looking for a fresh executive face

A fascinating experiment in male grooming is taking place in the heart of London's West End.

With a shiny blue-tiled bar on one side and a selection of macho (or masochistic) exercise machines on the other, a male beauty salon was opened by Aramis last week.

Selfridges Beauty Play-

ground, where women can try out and be advised on cosmetics and treatments, is now as much a part of Spring as the First Cuckoo. Women this year are play paying £1 (redeemable against product purchases) for the right to paint on a new face.

Tucked discreetly beside their playpen on the fourth floor, is the Aramis area,

which is free to men who want to re-think their image, to improve their muscle power, to try out a new hair style or to try to get rid of their pimples.

The skin care and treatment area (with Aramis 900 products) has been given the greatest emphasis, which is probably a wise move given the British male's doubting and timid view of toiletries.

Visitors so far have been evenly divided between the young 19 year olds, mostly wanting advice for skin problems, and the late thirties, looking for a fresh executive face.

Selfridges Beauty Play-ground until Saturday February 13.

Queen's Bench Division

Law Report February 9 1982

Previous conduct of dog is admissible

Maile v Lenton

Before Mr Justice Glidewell

Judgment delivered February 5

In proceedings against a dog owner alleging that on a specified date the dog was dangerous and contrary to section 2 of the Dogs Act 1871, evidence of the conduct of the dog on previous occasions was admissible as being relevant to the question of whether or not it was dangerous. Mr Justice Glidewell held in the Queen's Bench Division when allowing an appeal by the complainant, Donald Maile, against a decision of Cambridgeshire Justices sitting at Cambridge.

Mr Bernard Livesey for the complainant; the dog owner was neither present nor represented.

MR JUSTICE GLIDEWELL said that on June 10, 1981, the justices were hearing a complaint against the defendant, Peter Sydney Lenton, that on December 11, 1980, he was the owner of a dog which was dangerous and not kept under proper control contrary to section 2 of the Act. The dog was alleged to have been involved in an earlier incident on August 12, 1980, when it had demonstrated some attribute which was relevant to the question of whether it was dangerous. The complainant sought to adduce evidence to that incident as tending to show that the dog had a propensity to attack or bite human beings and as showing lack of control on the part of the owner. The owner objected and referred to the law

on similar fact evidence in criminal trials.

The justices ruled that the evidence was inadmissible. They proceeded to hear the complaint on the evidence of the incident on December 11 and dismissed it.

His Lordship said that the justices were wrong to exclude the evidence of the earlier incident. If the only evidence was the conduct of the dog on one occasion, it might be said that the dog was acting out of character.

Evidence of a course of conduct where the dog had demonstrated some propensity was both relevant and admissible. Whether it was also relevant to the question of whether the dog was kept under proper control was a more difficult matter.

The issue was whether, at the time of the incident, the dog was under proper control. The propensity of the dog and whether it was under proper control were two separate questions.

But that was perhaps a complete technicality and the justices should have admitted the evidence about the earlier incident to the question of whether the dog was dangerous and not kept under proper control.

The Court of Appeal, Lord Justice Glidewell dissenting, allowed an appeal by the complainant, Empress Cuban de Fletes, from a decision of Mr Justice Robert Goff who on appeal by the owners, Kodros Shipping Corporation of Monrovia, from an interim award of an umpire, Mr Basil Eckersley and Mr Nicholas Legh-Jones and Mr David Milford for the owners.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the *Evin* sailed from Cuba with a cargo of cement in May 1980. Her destination was Basra. That was a safe port at that time as there was no expectation of hostilities affecting the port.

She arrived on August 20, 1980. On September 22, when most of the charterers had left to go, she was ready to leave.

But on that very day there was fighting in and around the port; war had broken out between the Iran and Iraq. The *Evin* was trapped. She was still there, as were 60 other ships.

The owners claimed damages from the charterers on the ground that the charterers had warranted that Basra was and would be a safe port for the

Safe-port warranty not breached by Iran-Iraq war

whole of her stay there and her departure, and that when the port became unsafe, the charterers were in breach of the warranty, and that damage amounting at least to the whole of the hire for the remainder of the charter. In answer the charterers said that they were not in breach of the warranty, and that owing to the outbreak of hostilities between Iran and Iraq on September 22, 1980, involving heavy fighting in and around Basra, and the owners were only entitled to hire up to October 4, 1980, on which date the charterers were frustrated by reason of the war.

The charterers could not rely on frustration because it was self-induced.

The safe port warranty was in clause 2 of the charterparty, on the *Baltimore* form, which provided: "The vessel to be employed in the trade on the carriage of liner or liner-cum-bulk only between good and safe ports."

The requirement of a safe port was that it had to be reasonably safe, in its geographical configuration on the coast or waterway and in the equipment and aids available to the vessel to enter, remain and depart without suffering damage, so long as she was well and carefully handled. In short it had to be safe in its set-up as a port.

Every port in its natural state had hazards for the ships going there. Those might be shoals, shoals, mud-banks or rocks, or might be storms, ice or tides, likely to be involved thereby. The charterers had to make a refund to the owners of the premium on demand; and (2) hire to be paid for all time lost."

The owners did insure the vessel and obtained, or were entitled to obtain, refund or were damaged. So if the vessel were damaged by shell-fire the owners could recover the amount from the insurers. It was inconceivable that they could also recover from the charterers for breach of the port warranty.

Mr Steyn submitted that the insurance provisions were irrelevant and should be disregarded.

Commercial contracts, in formulating those commercial contracts, the commercial men were providing for the way in which the risks of damage or loss of time were most economically to be borne. The risk of damage

caused by warlike operations was clearly to be borne by the owners, and that of delay by the charterers.

Clause 21 did not cover frustration. If and when frustration did occur, it brought the whole contract to an end including clause 21 itself.

The only remaining question was whether the charterparty was frustrated, and if so, when. Lord Russell in *The Times* (July 17, 1981) 3 WLR 292, 312, said: "where the effect of that event is to cause delay in the performance of contractual obligations, it is often necessary to wait upon the event to determine whether the delay already suffered and the prospects of further delay from that cause, will make any ultimate performance of the relevant contractual obligations radically different... from that which was undertaken by the charterers."

The point, though apparently of no practical significance in the present case, is important since, although the owners had a valid claim to damages, their obligation to mitigate the damages might be of special significance.

The owners were granted leave to appeal.

Solicitors: Coward Chance; Ince & Co.

Correction

In *Brinsford Ltd v Stachag GmbH and Stachag Rechthabend GmbH* (The *Mary Lou* [1981] 2 Lloyd's Rep 272) the words "officer" and "offeree" became transposed in a passage which should have read: "The general rule was that a contract was formed when acceptance by an offeree was communicated to the offeror."

That construction was supported by recent decisions in the commercial court: see, for example *The Mary Lou* [1981] 2 Lloyd's Rep 272.

The qualification involved cases where there was loss caused by an abnormal occurrence. The mere happening of a casualty did not necessarily imply a breach, since the warranty was not that the ship would be in all circumstances be free from damage in the port. For instance if a ship were set on fire by a lunatic who managed to get on board at the port, the damage would not have been caused by anything unsafe or characteristics of the port.

This sale will include fine quality Mink coats and jackets, good quality Fox coats and jackets, Beaver fur coats and jackets together with a large selection of furs in all price ranges both new and used. Viewing Tuesday, 16th February, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday, 17th February, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Catalogue 50p by post. The documents are now accepting tenders for the sale of Furs for Sale to be held on Thursday, 23rd March. For further information please contact Dene Rose, Ext. 222, 7 Blytham St, W.1. Tel: 01-529 6602.

No new facts on appeal

Regina v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte Kotacha. Evidence adduced on an appeal to an adjudicator from a decision of an immigration officer must relate to the facts as they existed at the date of that decision. Mr Justice Glidewell held in the Queen's Bench Division on February 4.

MR LORDSHIP said that under section 19(2) of the Immigration Act 1971, the

adjudicator had to deal with the appeal on the basis of the factual position before the entry clearance officer. *R v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte Rashid* [1978] Imm AR 168 did not consider whether evidence as to later facts ought to be admitted in reaching his decision, his Lordship approved the decision of the Immigration Appeal Tribunal in *Vice Officer, Karachi v Hessa, Mohammed* [1978] Imm AR 158, 172, 173.

Mr Steyn submitted that the insurance provisions were irrelevant and should be disregarded. His Lordship agreed. In formulating those commercial contracts, the commercial men were providing for the way in which the risks of damage or loss of time were most economically to be borne. The risk of damage

was borne by the owners, and that of delay by the charterers.

The built-in price of staying nuclear

Lawrence Freedman argues that whichever Trident missile Britain buys, the costs will rise

The Defence Secretary, Mr John Nott, will soon make an important announcement to Parliament about the British nuclear force. At issue is whether the Government will stick to its decision of July 1980 to buy the Trident C-4 submarine-launched ballistic missile or follow the Americans to the more advanced D-5 version of the weapon.

The Government would probably prefer not to have to make a decision at all, for there is an embarrassment either way. If it stays with C-4 it will be spending money on a system that may be coming out of service for the US before it enters service for Britain. If it opts for D-5 then it will invite criticism that it is increasing Britain's nuclear capabilities far beyond any conceivable strategic requirements and at substantial cost.

The problem should have been anticipated. In July 1980, for it was known then that the Carter administration was seriously considering moving to the D-5. However, it seemed likely then that the American decision would not be taken until well into the 1980s and that the C-4 would be operational until the end of the century.

The advent of the Reagan administration changed these calculations. Immediately the chances of D-5 being adopted grew, and British policymakers came to the view that the new submarines to be commissioned would have to be large enough to accommodate the larger D-5. This would at least not rule out the D-5, a firm American decision on which was still not expected until 1983. Then in October 1981 President Reagan decided to move forward right away, with the intention of introducing the D-5 in the early 1990s.

The extra range (4,000 miles) of the C-4 over Polaris could be justified to provide extra room for the Trident submarines to

avoid Soviet hunter-killer submarines, and the extra warheads to enable Britain to keep in step with improvements in Soviet offensive capabilities. But the range of the D-5 (6,000) miles is far more than is needed and there is certainly no requirement for the 13 or so highly accurate "silo-busting" warheads likely to come with the D-5.

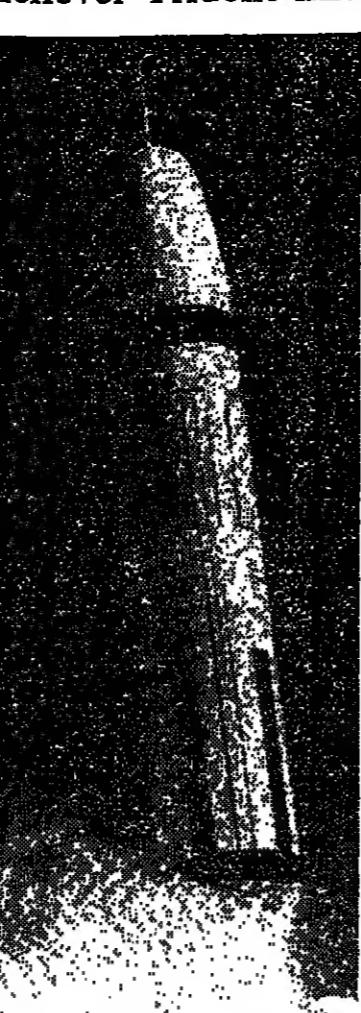
Those who view the eight warheads on the C-4 as being extremely provocative to the Soviet Union will no doubt be appalled by the D-5. However, the problem is not that Britain is suddenly acquiring a first-strike capability, for there is still a limit to what can be done with 400 warheads (the likely load of two submarines on station), but that there will be so much surplus capacity.

This surplus capacity will be expensive — the larger submarines and missiles will raise the price by up to £1,000m. There are also reasons to be nervous about being tied in to an American development programme, with the possibility of delay and escalating costs. Even if the Americans agree on a fixed price they may well insist on a higher surcharge to share research and development costs.

There is also the possibility of a late American cancellation, although the general support for the sea-based deterrent in the US makes this unlikely.

Unfortunately, by staying with the C-4, extra costs cannot be avoided. First, as the C-4 production line will be shut down in the mid-1980s, and as the line for some of the supporting equipment such as fire-control systems will also close within a few years, Britain would have to buy missiles and equipment now and store them until actually needed.

Second, once the British force is in service it would not be able to share general support costs with the United States,



The Trident C-4 missile: buy now, store till needed...

always claimed to be one of the great benefits of buying American. For example, it would soon become necessary to pay for a production line for rocket motors to be kept open especially for Britain, as has now happened with Polaris. All this means that because of the

American decision, the cost to Britain of staying in the nuclear business will rise. Using July 1980 prices and exchange rates, Ministry of Defence estimates show a movement from the original £5,000m price-tag to a figure still under £6,000m — not the £8,000m that has been cited elsewhere. Nevertheless, because of inflation and the fact that the price of the American purchases was calculated at a time when the pound was unusually strong, in current prices the cost is more than £7,000m.

It is most likely that the decision will be for D-5. This will only barely be on value-for-money grounds. Probably more important will be budgetary reasons. The total bill for D-5 may eventually be higher than for C-4, but because the purchases from the United States will be made much later, the immediate budgetary impact will be slight and the load will be more evenly spread. In a paradoxical way, opting for the more expensive D-5 may thus relieve some of the enormous pressure building up on the defence budget.

This aspect of the D-5 decision has an extremely important political aspect, for it means that by the time of the next general election, far less will have been spent or committed on the programme than the several hundred million pounds expected with C-4.

This would facilitate any post-election review of the nuclear programme by a new government. It would make it less painful for a Labour government simply to cancel the whole programme. It might also provide an opportunity for a Liberal/Social Democratic government to tamper with the programme. There remain significant differences within the Alliance on nuclear policy, but there is an anti-Trident conser-

sue, recently confirmed by Dr David Owen.

One option that might appear attractive — if there was a disposition to continue with a strategic nuclear force — would be to continue with the development of new submarines (which will be the most advanced part of the programme in 1984), but to fit them with revamped Polaris missiles. After all, substantial funds have been spent developing the Chevaline front-end for the missile and, more recently, reopening the United States production line for the motors. Persevering with old missiles would hardly be an efficient use of the new submarines, which are still the most expensive component of the programme, but it would reduce the costs, and could at least be justified as an interim measure until the D-5 was fully developed and proven.

In a separate decision, President Reagan has also given a boost to the United States submarine-launched cruise missile programme, which had a very low priority while the British government considered the successor to Polaris. This may also now be revived as an alternative option, although it is likely to remain unattractive.

Whatever happens over the next few years, we have had a stark illustration of the consequences of dependence on the United States for strategic missiles. British plans have come unstuck because of changes in American plans. New questions have now been raised against the future of the British nuclear programme. Certainly, continuing with Trident will now be more expensive than originally expected and will probably be simply to purchase surplus capacity.

The author is Head of the Policy Studies Unit at the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House).



Jeremy Thorpe: the long search is over

Is Thorpe the man to end Amnesty's trials?

by Caroline Moorehead

There was considerable surprise and some dismay at the British section of Amnesty yesterday over the appointment of Jeremy Thorpe as its new director. The staff had not even been told that he was on the short list.

The decision, however, ends a long search by Thorpe for a job to replace his leadership of the Liberal Party, and a shorter but extremely fraught one by Amnesty UK to find a figure of sufficient stature and personality clashes that led to the ousting — amid considerable publicity — of Cosmas Desmond, a former priest and prisoner of conscience in South Africa.

The post was leaked to the press unexpectedly on Sunday evening: Thorpe is in Luxembourg this week on business.

When Thorpe lost his North Devon seat in the 1979 general election he also automatically lost his chairmanship of the United Nations Association parliamentary group — the committee that keeps backbenchers in touch with UN affairs — though he has remained closely involved with the association. Today he is chairman of its political committee and on the national executive, where fellow members are quick to praise his "ready wit and constructive leadership".

The gap left by 20 years' active membership of Parliament was at least partly filled by a variety of business and charitable interests. Thorpe is a consultant for a company called Stratim and has been having discussions on its behalf in Africa; the firm apparently has plans to open a factory shortly in Zimbabwe. He has also served charities, becoming, for instance, chairman of the National Benevolent Fund, which provides holidays and rented televisions for old people.

With his wife Marion, who supported him unequivocally at the time of his trial, he has continued the musical life he loves, being a frequent visitor to the Adeburgh Festival near his home in Suffolk. In December there were reports that he intended to stand as Liberal candidate for Tenterden, but the story is denied by the local party. It says that though he is a member, he now takes no active part in Liberal affairs.

"I wrote that article in *Le Monde* because I felt that the disappearance of the French Rothschilds from the economic scene was something I could not allow to happen without notice or protest. The article was reproduced in newspapers all over the world — even in the Third World. It prompted hundreds of letters.

"I have a large file. I answered every single letter in longhand. That is my little piece of private publicity. Now, with time on his hands, he is writing his memoirs. It had long been clear that Thorpe was eager for a job but had not found it easy to get one. Early in 1980 ITN reporters reacted angrily when the company used an interview with Thorpe and President Kaunda of Zambia, an old friend, in a programme on the Rhodesian elections. Later he applied for the £22,000-a-year job as GLC race relations adviser, but he was not on the final short list of 15.

The Amnesty job does not look immediately enticing, even though the council of 26, appointing him from a

last September. The Secret Policeman's Other Ballad firmly set to bring its customary haul. Instead mysteriously, due possibly to the organization's internal disputes, no directing hand guided the venture, and virtually no money has since come its way. Both membership numbers and finances are now becoming pressing questions.

Like John Profumo, Jeremy Thorpe has had to give up a serious political career after allegations concerning his private life. Profumo found in the Toyne Bay settlement in east London, a job that was both rewarding and successful. The trouble is that Amnesty UK is a highly vulnerable state, need proven managerial skill and the ability to raise funds as well as solid, impregnable public image.

"It may well turn out fine," one staff member said yesterday, "but it sure is on hell of a risk."

Rothschild: a phoenix too frequent

by Charles Hargrove

Paris Last October the leftist newspaper *Liberation* suggested that, after nationalisation, Rothschild's Bank would become some sort of "people's bank" because it would bear the name of the family which has been a household name for banking and a symbol of wealth and influence in France for 150 years. In 1967, when the firm was turned from a merchant bank into an ordinary commercial bank, Baron Guy de Rothschild, the head of the senior branch of the family, ensured by a legal document that it remained the owner of the name.

But what will become of Rothschild? It does not appear anywhere, not particularly large, sixteen in size of the 36 to fall under the axe, with just under £4,000m of deposits, a network of branches all over the country and industrial assets all over the world.

Something, Guy de Roth-

schild insists, will be lost. "I explained to the Government," he told me, "that the firm would lose custom, not because it lost its name, but because Rothschild would not be managing it any longer. Its main asset is not the name, but the individuals".

Not that the Banque Rothschild has proved incapable of weathering successive regimes and revolutions. It was even alleged that it had made its money on the country's misfortunes. That was to forget that the money of the French Rothschilds had always been at the service of the state, monarchial or republican. It helped in the birth of Belgium, financed Greek independence and Italian unity, supported the treasuries of Spain, Austria and the United States, and helped to pay off the indemnity of 5m gold francs exacted by Prussia after the war of 1870.

In 1936 it was nearly nationalized by the Popular Front government which fell before it could carry out its plans. In 1940, with the Vichy regime, it simply ceased to exist altogether and all its assets were seized. But it was reborn phoenix-like, after the liberation and began a new period of rapid expansion. But now the death knell really seems to have struck, and Guy de Rothschild, in an article in *Le Monde* entitled "Adieu Rothschild", wrote dismally, "Jew under Petain, pariah under Mitterrand, for me that is enough. To rebuild on ruins twice in a lifetime is too much. Compulsorily retired, I wish myself a striker."

"People also associate us



Baron Guy de Rothschild and Baroness Marie-Helen: The bank's main asset is 'not the names but the individuals'

with many of the complexes people have about money; they are, in France, a capitalist symbol. "Symbols are elusive and difficult to define. The name has been associated with wealth in a proverbial manner. Parents refuse to give their children the toys they want, saying, 'Do you think I'm a Rothschild?'

The Rothschilds are in a way victims of the fact that they are, in France, a capitalist symbol. "Symbols are elusive and difficult to define. The name has been associated with wealth in a proverbial manner. Parents refuse to give their children the toys they want, saying, 'Do you think I'm a Rothschild?'

"Either the government does absolutely nothing with nationalization, except own a number of banks competing with each other — rather than though several stables, all

owned by the government, kept racing against one another — or it will remodel the whole industry and set definite economic targets and indications. Then we go into something which is no more the approach of competitive free enterprise of commercial banks towards the job."

"I wrote that article in *Le Monde* because I felt that the disappearance of the French Rothschilds from the economic scene was something I could not allow to happen without notice or protest. The article was reproduced in newspapers all over the world — even in the Third World. It prompted hundreds of letters.

"I have a large file. I answered every single letter in longhand. That is my little piece of private publicity. Now, with time on his hands, he is writing his memoirs.

It had long been clear that Thorpe was eager for a job but had not found it easy to get one. Early in 1980 ITN reporters reacted angrily when the company used an interview with Thorpe and President Kaunda of Zambia, an old friend, in a programme on the Rhodesian elections. Later he applied for the £22,000-a-year job as GLC race relations adviser, but he was not on the final short list of 15.

The Amnesty job does not

look immediately enticing, even though the council of 26, appointing him from a

last September. The Secret Policeman's Other Ballad firmly set to bring its customary haul. Instead mysteriously, due possibly to the organization's internal disputes, no directing hand guided the venture, and virtually no money has since come its way. Both membership numbers and finances are now becoming pressing questions.

Like John Profumo, Jeremy Thorpe has had to give up a serious political career after allegations concerning his private life. Profumo found in the Toyne Bay settlement in east London, a job that was both rewarding and successful. The trouble is that Amnesty UK is a highly vulnerable state, need proven managerial skill and the ability to raise funds as well as solid, impregnable public image.

"It may well turn out fine," one staff member said yesterday, "but it sure is on hell of a risk."

Will Bath let Fanny Burney rest in peace?

Frank Muir, a collector of eighteenth-century literature as well as raconteur and wit, is alarmed that something horrible is about to happen to the delicious Fanny Burney, who was Dr Johnson's delight. He fears that Bath Corporation intend to excavate her grave to make a car park.

Irresistibly Muir, singing star of *My Music*, is reminded of the old music hall song: "They've dug up grandpa's grave to make a sewer. They did the job regardless of expense. They dug up his remains, to build some ten-inch drains, to satisfy some grand new residence...". The prospect of anything similar happening to "little Burney" appals Muir, as it will anyone who knows her acute and vivacious observation of the court of George III or the comic genius of her novels.

Fanny was buried with her husband, General d'Arblay, and son, the Rev Alexander d'Arblay, "Notre chère Trio", she called them, when married contentment had made her rather silly. The burial place was a vault in the Old Burial Ground of St Swithin's Church, Walcot, an overflow cemetery used because the yard around the church itself was full.

The Old Burial Ground is now disused, the resort of dunces, dogs and down-and-outs. Bath has plans to make a car park of the site. There is some com-

placency locally because the d'Arblay's Portland stone memorial was moved to the churchyard, which had been cleared of tombs in 1955. Most people assume the massive memorial marks Fanny's grave, but really she still lies in an unmarked vault a hundred yards away.

Both the present situation and the future Bath plans for her burial place would distress Fanny Burney acutely. Though she easily withstood the excruciating pain of a mastectomy at the hands of the surgeon-general of the Grande Armée without anaesthetic, what she feared most in her genteel later life was social embarrassment, and her Victorian sensibility would have been outraged at the possibility of such sacrilege.

Ever politic in referring to the Persian or Arab Gulf only as "the term 'Indian sub-continent' for the BBC World Service", Fanny Burney, on February 20 with a dramatization of *Ten Little Indians*.

Saint Edith

Joan Plowright, Lady Olivier, is to play Edith Cavell in a play by actor Keith Baxter at the Chichester Festival Theatre this year. This is Chichester's twenty-first season, and Plowright was at the first, when Laurence Olivier was artistic director.

Patrick Garland, the present director, thinks the role of the heroic nurse who faced the firing squad with the words "Patriotism

is not enough" bears strong resemblance to Saint Joan, in which Plowright triumphed at Chichester in 1963.

Stalling MPs

On evidence from Parliament Square yesterday, only three of our 633 MPs could find a wheel, sat, let alone run one. Two of those who did manage had to be assisted.

Members of the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation had invited MPs to sample seafood below the statue of Sir Winston Churchill, in aid of a sponsored walk. Seventeen minutes after the appointed time, Alf Roberts, Labour spokesman for the disabled, turned up, and though his constituency of Manchester Wythenshawe is in the heart of tripe-eating country, he chewed through a dish of jellied eels for photographers.

No more MPs arrived —

friendship and co-operation to our allies and a warning to our adversaries that we are not to be trod upon". (Sounds more like a rattle snake.)

There used to be about 100,000 bald eagles in the US, but now they are approaching extinction — a fact which, some of Reagan's critics believe, faces the country itself if the President is allowed to persist with his build-up of nuclear weapons and tough talking directed at the Soviet Union.

Young Reith says he has always been attracted by commercialism, "but I might have gone to the Beeb if my name had been Smith."

The National Trust would rather take on themselves, though the National Trust estimate it will need £6m spent on it in the next decade.

Grave turn

The late Lord Reith, who called Churchill a "loathsome cad", and Beaverbrook a "shite", would doubtless have strong words to apply to his great nephew, Adrian Reith, who yesterday started work at Capital Radio in London. The BBC's £15m founder would, Capital suggested yesterday, be turning in his grave — a difficult image to conjure up. Adrian Reith, who is to write trailers for forthcoming programmes, met his great uncle once and found him "daunting".

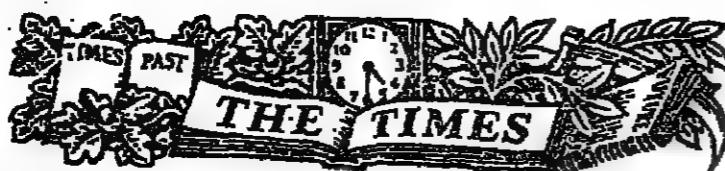
Young Reith says he has

been attracted by commercialism, "but I might have gone to the Beeb if my name had been Smith."

What unthought of things do our London readers miss most when they leave the capital? And what, if anything, do those from out-of-town find to savour in the old place.

Missing links

A lovely lesbian lady featured in Gay Search's television programme *Couples* was asked what she missed about London now that she is ladyland of a Cornish guest house. Her extraordinary answer was: "Doner kebabs, nothing but doner kebabs."



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

POISON IN THE AIR

The report in *The Times* yesterday that the Chief Medical Officer at the Department of Health had issued a confidential letter warning that lead in petrol is probably permanently damaging the health and mental activity of many children will, and should, raise the temperature of an already heated issue.

In itself Sir Henry Yellowlees' letter does not finally settle the scientific question of proof. The Lawther Report published in 1980 challenged the link between lead and brain damage. The main research studies launched subsequently in Britain remain incomplete and a minority of respected researchers are unconvinced. Certainly these studies must be pursued with vigour and it would be indefensible if any of them suffered from the current cuts in environmental research. Equally the relevant papers and evidence, from within Departments as well as outside, should be published as soon as possible. The particular advice of officials to ministers should be protected but the evidence and options shaping decisions should not be hidden. This matter concerns not spies but children.

In fact the weight of evidence, as Sir Henry Yellowlees states, already points firmly in the direction of risk, especially from car exhausts which emit around 10,000 tons of lead a year into British air. In any case we should not have to wait until the very last mathematical correlation has been estab-

lished to announce proudly that there is final proof that children have continued to be blighted while the research was concluded. The balance of risk is clearly such as to justify the maximum control on the emission of lead poisons.

The Government has not been deaf to the fears voiced by critics in the DHSS and among the public at large. Last year it decided that from 1985 the maximum level of liquid lead allowed to be added to petrol was to be reduced from 0.40 grams per litre to 0.15 grams. But that decision (the fifth such reduction in ten years) smelt of departmental compromise. Those, such as the Treasury and the Department of Energy, who worried about the cost of eliminating toxic lead argued for a minimal reduction. Those who were convinced of the danger to children's health (and the cost of treating lead poisoning) could only in logic argue for the rapid and major reduction or elimination of lead in petrol. The outcome was a familiar compromise, unsatisfactory in view of the dangers involved. If the medical case against lead holds, then 1985 is too long ahead and 0.15 grams per litre—above the level at which lead damage to the body has been established—is too high. Moreover, there is no commitment to further reduction beyond 1985, whereas the United States, Japan, Australia, Germany and Sweden are all committed to a transition to completely lead-free petrol. Our motor car exporters will

then no longer have access to those markets unless they adjust in line.

Two arguments, one minor, one major, will have to be met by those who are now pressing for more urgent action. First is the existence of EEC standards which stand in the way of eliminating lead altogether. These need not however deter a government determined to alter both the prevailing EEC standards and our own.

The question of cost is less readily dismissed. Although the precise numbers are not easy to establish, it is widely accepted that eliminating lead from petrol alone would cost the oil companies some two hundred million pounds in new plant and add three or four pence to a gallon of petrol—while also removing the danger from paint, old pipes and factory emission which add considerably to that. It is natural for campaigners to consider no cost too high to satisfy their particular cause. In fact society often shies at the cost of eliminating an evil, as it does at the price of stopping the annual slaughter on our roads. But this is not a case of reckless individuals choosing to maim themselves along with others. It concerns tens of thousands of children, born and yet to be born, the future generation of this country at risk of being disadvantaged. It is not every child; and the risk is not a certainty. But the risk is too great to bear, and the price of eliminating the poison is far from being too high to pay.

KEEPING ALIVE THE HELSINKI PROCESS

Foreign ministers are converging on Madrid this week to address the meeting which has been reviewing the Helsinki Final Act of 1975 since September 1980. The fact they think their journey worthwhile testifies to the continuing importance of the Helsinki document. Yet the reason for their journey, Poland, is so controversial that it could bleed away the last flickers of life from the Helsinki process.

The odds are that a formal breakdown will be avoided because no one wants to be responsible for it, but there is a danger that agreement on a concluding document will now become so difficult that the meeting will be diverted into a series of face-saving adjournments. The Americans are already clear that they want an adjournment until next September. The West Germans, on the other hand, would prefer to keep talking. The British are in search of compromise, believing that there is little chance of a useful agreement at present but that the process must be kept alive. The neutrals and non-aligned, whose draft concluding document was within sight of winning gen-

eral agreement before the military takeover in Poland, are particularly anxious that hope should not be abandoned.

It is obvious that Poland must be discussed. For the Poles and their allies to suggest otherwise is absurd. The imposition of martial law clearly breaches several sections of the Helsinki Final Act, notably those on human and civil rights and international communications. If it was carried out under direct Soviet pressure it also breaches the sections on sovereignty and non-interference. It is precisely the sort of action which the Final Act is intended to prevent.

This has tempted some people to argue that if such a massive coach and horses can be driven through the Final Act it must be worthless and might as well be abandoned, especially as the Warsaw Pact countries are anyway guilty of continual lesser breaches. But nothing would be gained and much lost if this argument were to influence western policy. The Final Act was a very considerable diplomatic victory for the West. It did not give the Russians the confirmation of the status quo which they sought. Instead it provided a charter for more open relations between east and west Europe which has been a constant embarrassment to them, and a source of constant hope to those working for a lowering of east-west barriers. It also provides a European forum in which not only Poland but a host of other issues can be raised.

The fact that the Final Act is regularly breached (even to a limited extent by western countries) is no reason for abandoning it altogether. It embodies and legitimizes aspirations for a freer Europe. These aspirations are particularly strong in the smaller countries of east and west, but they should also be shared by larger powers. The Polish crisis is naturally a severe setback but it does not invalidate the aspirations. For the moment it probably makes a constructive agreement in Madrid impossible but western participants should not allow this to jeopardize the process of consultation and mutual criticism which the Helsinki conference set in motion. It serves Western interests more than it serves those of the Soviet Union.

FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

Mr Peter Walker, the Minister of Agriculture is a self-made man. He made his fortune from scratch, starting without capital and operating freely within his chosen market. He is now a farmer of some consequence, having just sold one farm and being about to buy another. It is thus strange to witness his reluctance to create conditions in the market for agricultural land which could enable other young men without capital to achieve the successes and the wealth which Mr Walker achieved in his own commercial activities some years ago. Mr Walker is resolutely refusing to change the basis of agricultural tenancies, though his own department does not dispute the merits of the argument for doing so. The Minister's excuse is that the politics of the case are unwise.

In 1976 the Labour Government passed an Act which more or less guaranteed security of tenure to the sons and even grandsons of existing tenant farmers. The effect of that Act has been to dry up the availability of agricultural land for tenancy, which has now dropped to 41% of the total acreage farmed. A reasonable calculation is that at least one million acres have been thus taken out of the market by landlords unwilling to enter into tenancies which

have such impregnable and unending security about them. The effect on the pattern of land distribution is bad since it means that more and more land is being concentrated in the hands either of institutions or of large freeholders who are waiting for each and every reversion of a tenancy. At least 30 per cent of the land transactions in the last 12 months has involved land being bought by major institutions.

The pattern of reasonably small agricultural tenancies which tend to be more efficient than those under owner occupation is therefore being threatened. Moreover, the opportunities for young men to enter farming as entrepreneurs are becoming few and far between, since they can apply only to men with the kind of capital which can buy land freehold at the exorbitant prices now obtaining. Some refuge may be found in agricultural partnerships and there is some talk about a scheme for shorter tenancies. Today the National Farmers' Union will discuss a motion calling on Dr Walker to proceed forthwith to introduce a bill along lines agreed with The Country Landowners' Association, the National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs, The Tenant Farmers' Association and The

Association of Small Farmers in other words, every body which has an interest in the situation.

They are all agreed on the need for such an amendment to liberate land and create opportunities for young men to go into farming without the need for enormous purchase capital behind them. What capital they had could be employed as working capital, to the greater efficiency of farming and the benefit of the country as a whole.

Mr Walker initially declined because he felt that, unless the Labour Party agreed to such an amendment there was no point in passing it. With the falling away of the Labour Party's chances of becoming the next government, that excuse has been replaced by one suggesting that the Conservative Government would attract unnecessary political criticism for passing a Bill that could be held up as a "Landlords' Charter", in spite of the fact that all parties affected by the Bill want it to be passed. In the meantime, British farming in spite of its excellence is facing a future with few outlets for committed young entrepreneurs to stay in agriculture. Mr Walker, remembering his own youth, full achievements, should not let his political apprehensions unduly dominate a case which has such merit.

Finally eliminated the availability of new privately rented accommodation to residents of this country. Yet, there is not even a mention of rent control among Mr McIntosh's proposals to "allow each tenure system to develop..."

It seems that, despite the growing sophistication of economic journalism, teachers of economics are not yet wasting their time by continuously emphasizing the role of demand

Housing policy

From Mr Kurt Klappholz

Sir, The Director of Shelter

(February 2) extols the benefits

of rented accommodation, be it

"public or private" and is

anxious to extend its availability.

I cannot be the only one among

your readers to find Shelter a

strange source for such a

sermon. Shelter was one of the

major pressure groups in favour

of the 1974 Rent Act which

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reinforcing powers of European Court

From Mr H. F. O. Bewsher

Sir, I refer to the letter of Mr

Alan Tyrrell, QC, regarding the

powers of the European Court

to delay by member states in

complying with its judgments

(February 4).

I accept that from a constitutional point of view "delay is

different from denial", but other

points of view should not be

ignored. In commerce justice too

is not justice.

The following example will

illustrate the point. The European

Court condemned certain

discriminatory taxes on Scotch

whisky in France on February 27,

1980. Nearly two years later tax

discrimination still exists, and the

French Government has indicated

its intention that it shall continue

at least until February 1983.

The total amount of tax

unlawfully levied on Scotch

whisky imports into France

from the date of the European

Court's judgment and the end of

1981 is not more than £60m. The

effect on competition between

Scotch whisky and French spirits

not bearing such tax can be

readily imagined.

Yet no satisfactory sanction

exists. Neither the Court nor the

Commission can impose a fine on

the French Government; the

importers of Scotch whisky

cannot avoid paying the unlawful

tax; by enacting the *Loi de*

Finances for 1981 a provision

making reclaim of tax dependent

upon proof that the tax was not

passed on to the consumers, the

French Government has made

such reclaim as difficult as

possible (how can it be proved at

what price the whisky would have

been sold in the absence of the

discriminatory tax?); there is, we

understand, little prospect of

obtaining significant damages for

the reduction in sales because,

although such reduction must

inevitably have taken place, the

amount of the reduction cannot

in practice be quantified.

There is in such cases every

incentive to a government to

delay compliance with the law for

the benefit of its Exchequer and

the protection of national produc-

ers against competition. If it

becomes the habit of govern-

ments to disregard judgments for

three or four years, Community

law cannot but be brought into

disrepute.

Whilst therefore fully agreeing

with Mr Tyrrell that in the

historical perspective the achieve-

ment of the European Court is

remarkable and should not be

belittled, I think that we should

add that the lack of effective

sanctions is a dangerous weak-

ness in the Community which

should be remedied as soon as

possible.

Yours faithfully,

H. E. O. BEWSHER,

Director-General,

The Scotch Whisky Association,

20 Atholl Crescent,

Edinburgh.

February 5.

Blood and Grail

From Professor David Lowenthal

Sir, May a geographer join a

Liberation (L. A. Moritz, Etc)

27/1/82) discussion of Bevin Hillier's

(January 18) reference to Arcadia?

The legend of Arcadian father

land referred to in *The Holy**Blood and the Holy Grail* is an

invention of Virgil, whose Eclips-

eum confabulates the blood and

the Grail land with the

luxurious charms of Sicily. For

getting throughout the Middle

Ages, Virgil's Arcadia re-emerged

in the critical phrasing. Moreover,

the motto of the Plantagenets

referred to in the Plantagenets

for it was unknown until the

1620s, when it appeared as

the title of a painting by Giovanni

Francesco Guercino.

The alteration of that phrase's

original meaning, "Even I, death,

in Arcadia", to "I, too, was in

Arcadia", reflects less admiring

and more comforting images of

Arcadia itself, signalled by the

Stock Exchange Prices

Thin trading

ACCOUNT DAYS : Dealings Began, Jan 25. Dealings End Feb 12. \$ Contango Day, Feb 15. Settlement Day, Feb 22

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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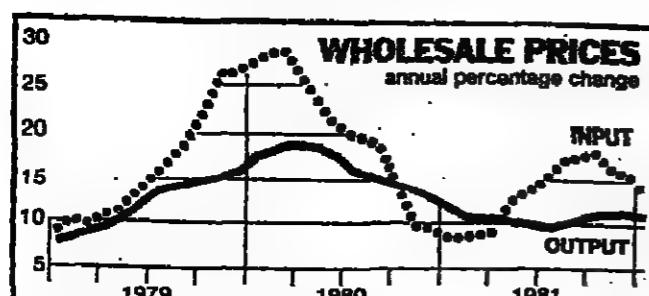
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BUSINESS NEWS

Wholesale prices fall



The annual rate of increase in factory gate prices fell last month for the first time since July to 11 per cent from 11½ per cent in December. This was despite an increase of 1 per cent in the month, due partly to seasonal bunching of price increases at the start of the year. Fuel and raw materials costs also rose sharply last month by 0.8 per cent, with higher mill prices the chief culprit. But this was not enough to stop the downward trend seen since the autumn. The increase in input prices over 12 months fell to 13.4 per cent last month from 15.1 per cent in December.

Swansea to lose 100 jobs

Ashland United Kingdom Chemical, the United States-owned company which manufactures carbon black, is to close its Swansea factory in mid-May with the loss of 100 jobs. It blamed the fall in demand from the tyre and rubber industries for carbon black. "During the relatively short period of the last two years or so, we have seen two of our four United Kingdom competitors going out of business because of overcapacity in the

Sales figures rebased

The Department of Trade, which publishes the retail sales statistics, announced yesterday that the index is to be rebased on 1978=100 from January 1982, to be published later this month. The present base year is 1976. Final figures for retail sales in December show a seasonally adjusted drop of 1 per cent on the month, rather less than the 1 per cent fall indicated by the provisional figures. Sales in 1981 as a whole were up 2 per cent on 1980, with a small decline in food sales offset by a rise in non-food business.

Hughes grows in Belfast

Hughes Tool Company of Houston, Texas, is to expand in Belfast with another plant employing 230 within two years. It is to lease a \$70,000 sq ft Government-owned factory in Monkstown where production will begin in the autumn, initially with 120 workers. The total investment including government grants will be \$7m. Hughes is the first American company to establish a manufacturing operation in Northern Ireland nearly 30 years ago and employs about 500 people at its existing factories in East Belfast.

MARKET SUMMARY

Bank springs £750m surprise

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 570.7 down 7.4
FT Gilts 64.68 down 5.47
FT All share 327.85 down 2.1
Bargains 19,088

There was a further rise in United States interest rates kept buyers away and the market opened the final week of the long three-week account with the FT Index falling 7.4 to 570.7.

Gilts closed as much as £1 down in long dates after the Bank of England's surprise announcement of a new £750m tranche of the Exchequer 134 per cent 1987 stock.

Dealers said it was most unusual for the Bank to make a new issue on a Monday but it could suggest that money supply figures due today will be better than expected. Short dates ended down £1 in very thin trading.

Leading shares closed with falls ranging from 2p to 9p, with Beecham 7p off to 242p, GEC 9p down to 832p, GKN slipping 3p to 183p and ICI at 538p, down 4p.

Engineers were cautious ahead of half-year figures from the Dowty Group which may be accompanied on Thursday by news that the group has lost a major United States contract. Dowty lost 8p to 119p while British Aerospace were 5p easier at 190p and Smits Industries shed 8p to 348p.

There was an early speculative flurry in the insurance

sector which saw Eagle Star reach 354p, bar slip back to 347p, up 2p on the day. Insurance brokers benefited from the firm dollar, with Willis Faber gaining 8p to 403p.

There was buying in television shares as Trident reported that revenue in the last quarter was 20 per cent up on the corresponding period. Among those marked up were Amstrad 1p better at 125p, and LWT also improving 4p to 125p.

Costain were a feature among building shares, gaining 2p to 274p on news of a Nigerian contract worth around £100m. But elsewhere dealers reported some selling as buyers held off from what has been a popular sector in recent weeks.

Blue Circle were down 6p, London Brick were unchanged at 76p after a broker's circular and Marley were also unchanged at 45p amid rumours of a possible rights issue. Nedland slipped 3p as the group was rumoured to be in line to take over Blue Circle's aggregated business after failing to acquire Faversham. Others fell in the sector including Rugby, down 1p at 95p, and Tarmac, 1p off at 435p.

Fisons were a bright spot and rose 7p to 248p following the sale of the fertilizer business and growing hopes of a bid. This comes after a 61p leap in the share price last week.

Figures today gave a 10p boost to Amstrad to 240p while Donald Macpherson were up 2p at 85p.

There was an early speculative flurry in the insurance

COMMODITIES

Rubber prices fell in sympathy with a weak Far Eastern market, reaching their lowest level during the present contract. March rubber closed at 47.9p a kilogramme while April was 43.9p a kilogramme.

Tin prices eased a little yesterday after reaching record heights at the end of last week. Cash tin closed at £3,955 a tonne down 15.5 and three-month metal was £3,775 a tonne at 7,985 a tonne. Sterling also did well despite lower oil prices.

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling £1.865 up 25 points
Index 91.9 up 0.3
DM 4.3950
Fr. 11.1600
Yen 436.00
Dollar
Index 111.7 up 0.4
DM 2.3575 up 115 jis
Gold \$378.75 down \$5.50

MONEY MARKETS

Period rates were slightly firmer where changed. The Bank bought £312m of bills at unchanged rates in response to a £300m shortage. Domestic rates:
3-month interbank 14.1-14.5%
Euro-currency rates
3-month dollar 101-102%
3-month Fr. 151-152%
3-month £ 151-152%

Opec ready to act on price-cutting threat

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Middle East oil producers are on the verge of calling an emergency meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) to discuss the dramatic state of price-cutting that is threatening stability on world oil markets.

Dr Mana Said al-Otaiba, the Arab Emirates oil minister and president of Opec, is to discuss the possibility of an emergency session in talks this week with Sheikh Ahmed Yamani, the Saudi oil minister.

The next scheduled Opec meeting is in Ecuador on May 21 but the present world oil glut has prompted intense pressure on the Saudi benchmark price of \$34 barrel. Saudi crude is trading on the spot market at a discount of at least 50 cents a barrel, while Iran is reported to be undercutting the official rate by about 80 cents.

News of a possible Opec meeting came as the British National Oil Corporation confirmed a North Sea oil price of \$1.50 a barrel from midnight. This follows representations from British Petroleum which, like other big companies including Esso and Shell, has been making considerable losses on downstream refining operations in the United Kingdom and Europe.

Dr al-Otaiba, who was in London at the weekend for talks on the oil problem, is due to meet Sheikh Yamani and Sheikh Ali al-Sabah, the

King that any reductions in the price of crude would not have short term effects in restoring stability to the oil market which was suffering from a severe shortage of demand.

Saudi production is reported to have fallen below the 8 million barrels a day mark for the first time in recent years, but no official announcement is expected before the projected Opec meeting.

Iran's price cuts, made in an attempt to boost exports could trigger similar moves elsewhere and upset the price reclassification agreed by Opec members last autumn. Kuwait is said to be angered by the reclassification and recently also criticized Saudi's "still too high levels" of output.

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Stick with Smith and Nephew . . . Believe in Britain

Recession proof Elastoplast

Smith & Nephew makes Elastoplast, Nivea cream and many other products that have decorated British bathrooms for years. Despite unexciting investment ratios — prospective yield of 5 per cent and price/earnings of 15 per cent — a number of major investors are looking at the group with interest. The shares are nudging the 1980-2 highs.

Mr Kenneth Kemp, the chairman, says exports and overseas growth were the main reason for the 20 per cent rise in pre-tax profits in the current first half. James Capel considers the company has achieved consistent growth, benefits from lower sterling and has a number of promising new products.

Philips and Drew maintains the shares are one of the most solid in the sector, since they are recession-proof. "Smith and Nephew is the share to buy when everything else is collapsing. This may be the wrong time in business cycle to get over-excited about them, but they are a solid performer," the broker says.

Unglamorous Elastoplast and Nivea cream are widely regarded as virtually recession-proof and have been responsible for upholding the company's rating throughout 1981.

NEWMAN IND

Merger in loss-making ceramics

Newman Industries, the engineering and ceramics group is to get a new £1.4m loan from its leading shareholders. Singapore-based Cycle & Carriage which put £5m into the group 15 months ago.

This emerged yesterday when Newman announced it was merging its loss-making ceramic interests with Weymek, to form Federated Potteries and that Mr John Williams, chairman for 18 months would resign once the deal was completed.

Newman will end up with 19.1 per cent of Federated



Mr Kemp: exports boosting profits

worth £53,000 at par for putting in almost £1m of cash and assets worth £500,000. It is also lending the new company £150,000 over three years.

New assets of Weymek, in which UK Provident Holdings has a major stake, is around £150,000. UK Provident will have 40 per cent of the new company.

The remaining will split between Larpent Newton, investment advisors to UK Provident, the two managers of Weymek, Mr Ken Hilton and Mr John Stephenson, and Mr Nigel McLean, Newman's chief executive who will also take over as chairman from Mr Williams.

Mr Williams said yesterday: "It is significant that the deal could not have been achieved without the further substantial support from the company's largest shareholder".

Latest results

Company	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Div date	Year's end
Sam Health (I)	2.07(1.82)	0.36(0.16)	—	—	—	(19.0)
Home Farm (I)	7.74(7.11)	0.45(0.39)	4.69(4.13)	1.11(1.1)	14/5	(2.5)
Meat Trade (I)	3.83(3.85)	0.13(0.22)	2.42(2.04)	1.75(5.5)	25/3	(7.87)
Murray Western (F)	—	3.33(3.11)	2.55(2.39)	1.9(1.8)	5/4	2/5(2.3)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish dividends multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown per £m and earnings are net. a—Loss b—Adjusted.

Legal Appointments also on page 21

YOUR EXPERIENCE OF COMMERCIAL LAW WILL TAKE YOU FAR WITH HERTZ EUROPE

Based at our Isleworth headquarters and acting as Deputy to our Director of Legal Affairs, you will travel quite extensively in Europe as you deal with the legal matters generated by a multi-national vehicle rental and leasing corporation — one of the best known names in the world.

This outstanding opportunity for a young qualified Solicitor with a strong yet tactful personality will involve negotiation and drafting of contracts, conveyancing, employment law, company law and EEC legislation.

This is a key decision making role, both in the U.K. and Europe, and you should, therefore, have at least 2-3 years post-qualification commercial experience, preferably in a company legal department. Fluency in a European language would be an added advantage. To possess the requisite experience you will be currently earning no less than £11,000 p.a. and looking for a very substantial rewards package including a favourable car leasing facility, BUPA and pension scheme.

Please send full career, salary and personal details to Mrs. R. Hale, Hertz Europe Limited, Isleworth House, Great West Road, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 5JF. Tel. 01-568 4422.

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Applicants with between 2 and 5 years post qualification experience and outstanding ability should apply, enclosing full curriculum vitae, by 17 February, 1982, to:

ANDREW P. NELSON, A.C.I.S.
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Essex House, Essex Street,
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Tel: 01-379 3456

LITIGATION-CARDIFF

Edwards Geldard & Shepherd seek an Assistant Solicitor, newly qualified or qualified up to two years for their civil litigation department. The work is demanding and varied serving commercial and private clients. An attractive salary will be paid to the right candidate.

Applications to Adrian Heale of Edwards Geldard & Shepherd, 16/18 St. Andrews Crescent, Cardiff. Telephone 0222 44731.

LITIGATION ASSISTANT

We have a vacancy in our Litigation Department for an experienced Legal Executive or unqualified person mainly in the field of Matrimonial Law. An attractive salary will be offered.

Please write with C.V. to Mr. G. Dearing of Messrs Brasier Son & Wiskin, Star House, Maidstone, Kent.

Our speciality is skill

Would you buy a small Welsh loss-making engineering company in the present state of the economy? Two chartered accountants have just done precisely that (Sally White writes). And they are not merely using it as a shell; they intend to stay in engineering.

The company is W. Williams & Sons, of Caerphilly. The two accountants are Mr Nigel Rudd, 35, former troubleshooter to Mr Jock Mackenzie at London and Northern Group, and Mr Brian McGowan, 37, finance director in Hongkong for a Sime Darby offshoot. He, too, is ex-London and Northern, went on to P & O to be chief acquisitions man before joining Sime Darby..

Mr Rudd has built up a property and engineering group called C. Price since leaving London and Northern. This is the vehicle that has been used to buy a 51 per cent stake in Williams.

The shareholders they bought out are the Williams family, who started the business in 1905 as non-ferrous metal diecasters, founders, stockists and engineers.

The Williams track record has deteriorated recently. In the half year to June 1980 the group lost £15,000, and turned a turnover of £3,520,000. The last full year saw a loss of nearly £750,000 on sales of £7.7m.

So why have Mr Rudd and Mr McGowan spent their money on Williams? They believe in British

engineering's specialized skills. For example, Williams owns a very profitable and well-known business reconditioning the rollers in steel mills. There is also a steel stockholding business that should be able to make more money. Then there is the advantage of bringing their wide range of experience to bear on what has been a local family run business.

Mr Rudd is now chairman, and Mr McGowan managing director jointly with Mr Chris Phillips — a 61-year-old engineer whose wide experience in the industry is one of Williams' strengths.

"First we have to show what we can do. We have got to turn Williams round. After that, but only then, we will look for other small speciality engineering business to take over," Mr Rudd explained.

Internationally, fund managers have been persuaded that the shares are worth a gamble but analysts believe statistical data on the treatment's effectiveness so far has been slight.

Treatment of cancer by an argon laser is not in itself new, but Japan Radio claims its rivals have failed to develop diagnostic techniques. It also says its equipment is simple to operate and is relatively cheap at about £15m (£35,000) per machine.

Two series of trials have been carried out and a third series is in progress. The first was carried out at Tsukuba University last year, when the laser was tested on beagles suffering from throat cancer.

The tumours were exposed to the laser beam for 10 minutes a day, and on the ninth day, the cancer was eliminated.

Speculative money from the world's stock markets has been flowing into the shares of a Japanese company which is developing what it claims is an effective new technique for treating cancer (writes Drew Johnson).

The technique involves use of a chemical compound, Haematoorphyrin, to diagnose the cancer which is then subjected to an argon laser beam. And though trials are continuing, the initial results of the treatment's effectiveness are very good, its developers say.

The developer of the technique is the Aloka company, a subsidiary of Japan Radio, the electronics and defence group. The volume of trading in the company's shares has increased about 20 times over the past few weeks. The share price rose to ¥950 (about £2.10), but has drifted down with the rest of the Tokyo equity market, and stands at ¥897.

Commentators on the Tokyo stock exchange say this volume increase highlights speculative desire to back a winner. No substantial rise in overall corporate profits is expected.

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INTERNATIONAL



JAPAN

Toshiba Corporation is planning a Y20,000m (£45m) factory for development of 16-megabit RAM super micro-chips capable of storing 15 times as much information as the 256k memory chips in production today.

A Toshiba spokesman said production of microchips for test purposes may start this summer.

• Nippon Light Metal Co., which is 50 per cent owned by Alcan Aluminum Ltd, plans to cut its workforce of 6,800 by 700 in the face of losses of ¥10,000m (£222m) for the year ending next March 31.

W GERMANY

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor has pledged substantial government financial support for the impending merger of Krupp Stahl and Essel Hoesch.

• West German wholesale turnover fell by a real 5.5 per cent in the first nine months of 1981 against the same period in 1980.

AFRICA

South Africa's imports totalled R18,400m in 1981, up from R14,400m the previous year, according to preliminary figures released by the Commissioner of Customs and Excise. Exports fell from R19,900m to R18,100m. Figures for sales of diamonds will be adjusted later to reflect receipts instead of shipment values.

• The state-owned Electricity Commission of South Africa has negotiated a \$250m seven-year loan from the international banks for a power plant at Matimba in the Transvaal.

FRANCE

Technip, the French industrial plant design and construction company, has been awarded a contract believed to worth more than Fr500m (£45m). The Algerian state-owned Chemical Industries Corporation to set up a flat glass plant at Jijel, on the Mediterranean coast.

GHANA

Ghanaians have begun handing in to banks 50-cent notes, which will cease to be legal tender from Friday. The banks estimated that about 30 million of the notes are in circulation.

The notes, which are the largest denomination in the national currency, were ordered to be surrendered by the ruling Provisional National Defence Council to cut an inflated domestic money supply and curb price rises.

BOLIVIA

Bolivian tin miners were beginning

A SMALL INDUCEMENT TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO MAKE A BIG DISCOVERY.

Until now, low-tar cigarettes have not only lacked taste they've also lacked a certain *je ne sais quoi*.

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PACK!**
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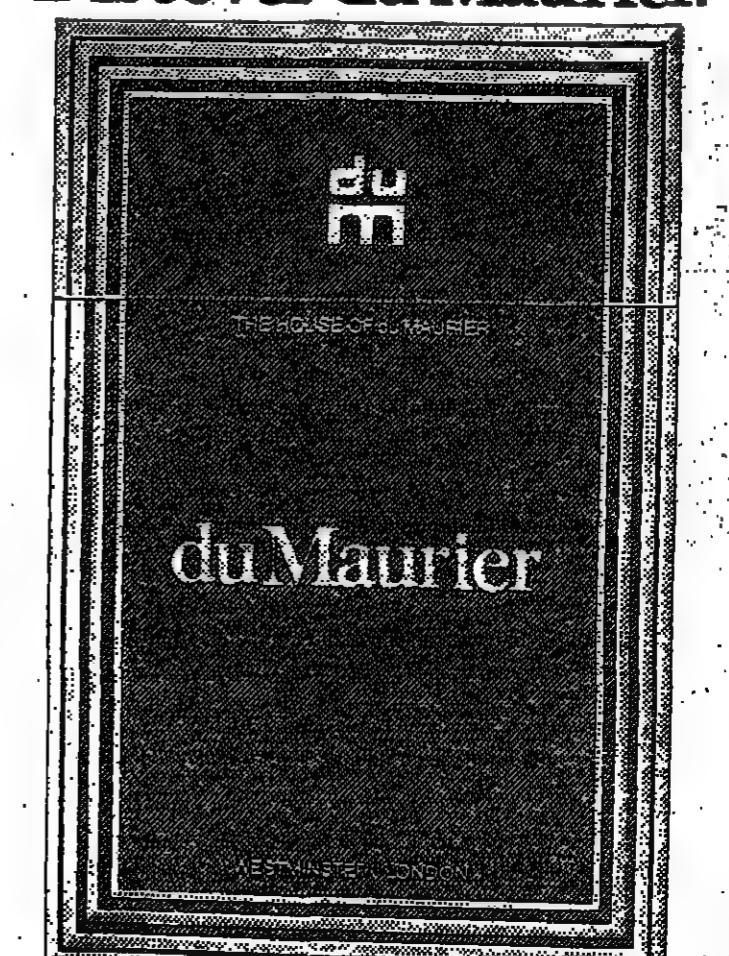
3p off your next pack. Or, in exchange for 10 in-pack coupons, a completely free pack.

Is that a tempting enough offer to give du Maurier low tar a try?

We hope it is. Because for the very first time you'll discover a low tar cigarette that really does have more than mere taste.

Now isn't that a discovery worth making?

Discover du Maurier.



Discover Low Tar.

LOW TAR Manufacturer's estimate

DANGER: H.M. Government Health Departments' WARNING:
THINK ABOUT THE HEALTH RISKS BEFORE SMOKING.

Rugby Union: shake-up in England back division against France

Davies and Rose are discarded for lack of consistency

Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Hawthorn analysed a fitful, disappointing English performance against Ireland at the weekend. The national selectors have dropped their stand-off half, Huw Davies, and their full-back Marcus Rose. Their replacements for the French international is Park on Saturday week, with Les Cusworth of Leicester, and Nick Stringer, of the Wasps.

Cusworth will be adding a second cap to the one he acquired last year, in 1979. Bill Beaumont and Paul Dodge, who will take over from Jim Seddall and Tony Bond. Steve Smith's 24th cap will equal Dick Jeeps record as an English stand-off. If Rounstone's last should win his 32nd cap, Wheeler will acquire his 23rd cap, and Slemen his 25th.

The rise of Stringer to the top of the English tree has been no less remarkable than that of Peter Williams, who came from the open old boys' club, Fullers, and Hers, to join Wasps in October 1980. So he has played senior club rugby for little more than a year. In that time he has won caps in every one of the branches available to him—England Under-23, London (Wallabies), England B (France B) and the Rest XV in the national side.

Against 11, Stringer is a big lad (5ft 11in, 14st 7lb), who looks to have the big match temperament. His cricketing skills are apparent in his catching of an over ball. He has great pace and strength, when joining in, and he should react well to the challenge of being nominated as England's new goal-kicker.

When England beat 23 at beat the Netherlands last season, Stringer was successful with 10 kicks out of 11. He lauded four

penalties against France B. The Wasps never had any doubt that he was an England player in the making, but even they are mildly surprised at the speed with which he has come on. It is significant that "Dusty" Rose, who lost his place to Rose midway through the last championship, has been restored as the fullback reserve.

The call for Cusworth, who is 27, means that Leicester's midfield trio will play their first international together. Always an adroit and resourceful little player for Wakefield, Yorkshire and Cusworth's game has grown in poise and confidence under the influence of "Chalky" White at Leicester, and he has played a prime part in taking North Midlands to two county finals.

"Budge" Rogers, chairman of selectors, said yesterday that he hoped Cusworth would bring "a bit more control, and a bit more judgment". He thought that Rose had suffered from loss of confidence and had not played so well this season as when he was first capped. "The time had come", he added, "to choose a most promising and able player of a similar type."

Mr Rogers stressed that, when weighty decisions are made concerning his panel assessors form not on one match but on a series of performances. By such a yardstick it cannot be denied that Davies and Rose, for all their gifted conundrums, have lacked a consistent, high level of performance this season.

After the head injury in the county final, which kept him out of the Irish game, Beaumont is seeing a neurologist again early this week, as well as taking a second opinion by way of pre-arranged. It's purely a precaution of the medical experts, said the chairman said. "As far as we are concerned, Bill doesn't have to play for Ryde next Saturday, but of course we shall welcome him back with open arms."

After Wales's win over France on Saturday, the home captain, Gareth Davies, was asked if he had thought of changing his mind. "At my stage," he was a slight smile, "I do not think I would have thought he might squint have said: "Good Evans, no." For the success rate of the Maesteg full back Gwyn Evans this season has been quite astonishing. He has also underlined the point that each Welshman has a cushion in the game, that the side who kick their goals more often than not wins. Commentators moan and former players hint that it was not so in their day but one can hear the players of today crying out.

By kicking six penalties in



Top of the tree: Stringer has climbed confidently up every branch to become first choice full back.

Sportsview

Evans makes a point

eight attempts against the French, Evans joins Don Clarke of New Zealand and, amazeballs, Gerald Roper of Australia. The others to have noted their round half-dozen is an international. It would have been nice to win by scoring tries, Gareth Davies admitted, and the Welsh were disappointed when France began killing the ball in the loose and the pragmatic Welsh tightened their approach. The point on the board appeared as much through French indiscretions as the accurate boot of Evans.

Whatever the game's lawmakers

will players will find ways of cutting corners. If they are caught, most accept the law as it stands, and if they are not caught, it is not their offence, under the same reasoning. Equally, players will "play" the referee for all he is worth until they discover just how far they can go, not in foul play but in technically illegal play.

The new tackle law this season has made this more than ever the case, since interpretations differ so widely, but I suspect it has always been so. Nor is there any dividend in braiding referred to.

"porkieky"; there is a hard enough lot and they apply the law as they see it. If the players depart from the referee's yardstick they do so at their own risk. There is even the view that players, reflecting the mores of their time, lack basic discipline, giving themselves greater problems.

So no grumbles from the Welsh on Saturday, but I do not believe too many English players were concerned that the most vital point in 1980, their grand slam year, came from penalties.

The Welsh will be more concerned over whether they now have the right mixture among their forwards.

David Hands

Motor cycling

A £340,000 shot in the arm broadens the power base

By Adrienne Blue

The decision of John Player to inject some £340,000 in prize, appearance and bonus money into motorcycle racing at Donington Park comes to the Leicestershire circuit like a shot of adrenaline. Ever since its reopening in 1977 Britain's oldest and newest international race circuit has been offered as a package by one sponsor at one circuit, the tobacco company will sponsor six international and four national meetings.

There is an entirely new five-round international 250cc championship with £3,000 in prizes for each round. As 250cc is the formula two of motorcycle, the preparatory school for grand prix racing, the first division for racing offered as a package by one sponsor at one circuit, the tobacco company will sponsor six international and four national meetings.

Donington's current move is to make it possible to engineer more rounds through a driver. To that end the circuit latched on to John Player—no it's the other way round—71st season for motorcycling sponsorship. Yesterday the sponsor announced this season's powerful booster. In the package, a new programme of motorcycle racing offered as a package by one sponsor at one circuit, the tobacco company will sponsor six international and four national meetings.

Before the war Donington Park had staged many of this country's top events, including grand prix. With the British motorcycle racing offered as a package by one sponsor at one circuit, the tobacco company will sponsor six international and four national meetings.

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about pitch

Legal Appointments

also on page 12

CITY OF LONDON COMPANY AND COMMERCIAL SOLICITORS

Herbert Smith & Co. have vacancies in their Company and Commercial Department for young Solicitors, preferably with qualified experience, to undertake a wide variety of interesting and demanding work, much of it involving an international element with the possibility of travel. Successful applicants will have excellent opportunities for advancement. Remuneration will be at rates appropriate to age and experience.

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WATERCOLOURS, DRAWINGS, PRINTS AND
SCULPTURE Cat. (113 illus.) £7.50

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ENGLISH FURNITURE Cat. (11 illus.) £1.50

Tuesday 16th February at 10.30 am
ENGLISH POTTERY AND PORCELAIN
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MODERN AND JAPANESE PRINTS AND OLD
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New Bond Street, London W1A 2AA
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Tuesday 9th February at 11 am and 2.30 pm
PRINTED BOOKS INCLUDING AN
EXTENSIVE SELECTION OF PRINTED
REMEMERA Cat. £3.50

Thursday 11th February at 10.30 am
PRINTED BOOKS Cat. 50p

Thursday 11th February at 10.30 am
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London SW1X 8LB Tel: (01) 235 4311

Wednesday 16th February at 10.30 am
CHILDREN'S GAMES, TINPLATE TOYS,
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Thursday 11th February at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
ORIENTAL CERAMICS, WORKS OF ART AND
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Tuesday 16th February at 11 am
VICTORIAN PAINTINGS, DRAWINGS AND
WATERCOLOURS Cat. (33 illus.) £1.50

News from Sotheby's

The Vouge/Sotheby's Cecil Beaton Award
1982: this award is offered each year for
outstanding talent in fashion and portrait
photography and illustration. It was instigated
by Condé Nast Publications Ltd, in memory of
Sir Cecil Beaton, who contributed so much to
the visual arts. This year is supported by
Sotheby's, who are the custodians of Beaton's
photographic archive. The first prize is £1,000,
and the possibility of work being published in
Vogue. Further information is available from
Margaret Wagstaff at Sotheby's Belgravia: (01) 235 4311, or in February Vogue.

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This week: Wednesdays

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Tuesday 16th February at 10.30 am and 2 pm
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CONTINENTAL FURNITURE AND WORKS OF
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INSTRUMENTS

Wednesday 17th February at 10.30 am
FINE SILVER AND PLATE Illus. Cat. £2

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Sotheby's Torquay Tel: (0803) 26277

Wednesday 16th February at 10.30 am
18TH AND 19TH CENTURY BRITISH AND
CONTINENTAL PAINTINGS

Wednesday 16th February at 11 a.m.
WATERCOLOURS, DRAWINGS,
MINIATURES AND PRINTS Illus. Cat. £3

St. Moritz
The Kulm Hotel

Tel: (082) 21151

Thursday 18th February at 5 pm and following two days
at 4 pm and 7 pm
FINE JEWELLERY Cat. £1.50

Wednesday 17th February at 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
CONTINENTAL FURNITURE, OBJECTS OF ART,
EASTER RUGS AND CARPETS. Catalogue £1.50

Friday 19th February at 11 a.m.
FINE VICTORIAN PAINTINGS Catalogue £3

Wednesday 24th February at 11 a.m.
RUSSIAN PORCELAIN Catalogue £2.25

Tuesday, 16 February at 11 a.m.
JAPANESE IVORY CARVINGS, NETSUKE AND
INRO Catalogue £1.50

All catalogue prices are post paid.

All catalogues subject to the conditions printed in the
catalogues.

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FINE ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL GLASS.
Catalogue £2.50

Wednesday, 10 February at 2.30 p.m.
RUSSIAN AND GREEK ICONS Catalogue 70p

Thursday, 11 February at 11 a.m.
FINE DRAWINGS Catalogue 60p

Friday, 12 February at 11 a.m.
CONTINENTAL FURNITURE, OBJECTS OF ART,
EASTER RUGS AND CARPETS. Catalogue £1.50

Monday, 13 February at 11 a.m.
FINE VICTORIAN PAINTINGS Catalogue £3

Wednesday, 14 February at 11 a.m.
RUSSIAN PORCELAIN Catalogue £2.25

Tuesday, 15 February at 11 a.m.
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INRO Catalogue £1.50

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At Cornelis Schuytstraat 57, 1071 JC Amsterdam
Wednesday, 17 February at 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
FURNITURE, METALWORK AND OBJECTS OF
ART. Catalogue £3 post paid.

Thursday, 18 February at 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
SILVER, JEWELLERY AND OBJECTS OF VERTU.
Catalogue £3 post paid.

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FURNITURE, CARPETS AND WORKS OF ART

Tuesday, 9 February, 1.30 p.m.
ANTIQUES AND MODERN JEWELLERY.

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CHINESE AND JAPANESE CERAMICS AND
WORKS OF ART

Wednesday, 10 February, 12 noon
RAILWAYS, RAILWAYANA, ENGINES,
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Viewing: Day prior 9 a.m.-4.30 p.m. and
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Illustrated catalogue £1 post.

Irishmen held in US linked with gun-running

From Christopher Thomas, New York, Feb 8

United States immigration authorities believe they have uncovered one of the Provisional IRA's most important gun-running rings with the arrest of five Belfast men near the Canadian border.

They were found on Saturday with nearly £10,000 in cash as they attempted to cross into the United States from Canada at the Whirlpool Bridge, Niagara Falls. According to immigration officials in Buffalo, where the men are being held, they all had Irish passports showing fraudulent photographs.

Mr William Truesdale, of the Department of Immigration, said they were found with equipment capable of accurately reproducing the official Irish Government stamp. "It was used to stamp the passport photographs", he added.

Immigration officials claim to have seized a large amount of evidence suggesting that the men, three of whom are Canadian residents, were on a mission to buy substantial quantities of ammunition and small arms. One source said the men were carrying identification that could lead to the identification of IRA contacts possibly in several parts of the world.

Mr Truesdale said the most important factor in reproducing television interviews.

Democrats warm up for battle of the budget

From Bailey Morris, Washington, Feb 8

President Reagan met Democratic and Republican leaders at the White House today to begin the difficult task of selling his controversial 1983 budget to a reluctant congress.

The president's \$758,000 (£407,750m) budget, which calls for record reductions in domestic programmes of \$26,000m and an unprecedented rise in peace-time defence spending, has been greeted coolly by members of both parties.

Mr Reagan said today, however, that he believes there is no real alternative to his programme and he asked leaders of both parties to support "the hard choices" he has made in the overall national interest.

Echoing this theme was Mr Howard Baker, majority leader of the Senate, who brooked no days of silence on the president's programme to give it qualified support.

Call to arms, page 6

Maurey moderate, page 6

Eton chaps tetchy over fewer calls to the bar

By Alan Hamilton

Things just haven't been the same in the saloon bar of The Tap at Eton since Eric the landlord put up the shutters on morning opening. The regulars are complaining that he's ruined the atmosphere, packing them all in later in the day. A chap has to wave his cheque book like a football rattle just to get served, they say.

Back in the old days you could wander in for a quiet pint and a chat with your mates. Not now; and of course they won't get extra staff in for the busy times. The Coca-Cola addicts don't help either. Clogging the place up.

It's all very well the place being open from 2 to 2.30, and again from 4.30 to 6.15, not to mention an hour on Saturday evenings, but as well as chopping all morning drinking so that a chap has no longer any chance of a swift tincture between a slab of algebra and a drone of Latin grammar, the landlord has cut the week's drinking hours by five down to a miserable 13.

So what can a chap do? Get on to the papers for a start. The *Eton College Chronicle* has made much of it in its latest issue. Very influential, the *Chronicle*; Charles Althorpe, the joint editor, is the Princess of Wales' brother. "The new rules, by restricting the hours to those times when The Tap gets crowded anyway, do not favour the great number of people who like to have a quiet pint just chatting to a few friends", the paper says.

Tap's purpose is to teach over-16-year-olds to drink socially.

The *Chronicle* wants longer afternoon hours, agrees that the morning sessions, abolished last term, were a bad idea, and calls for heavy fines as well as banning from the bar, which already operates, for anyone who exceeds the limit of two pints of beer or cider.

Dr Eric Anderson, the Head Master of Eton, felt that 13 hours' tuition per week in social drinking was quite sufficient. He might have been right, but did not that there are few more useful social graces than the ability to catch a barman's eye from the back row of a six-deep maul.

Ambassador escapes

— Tehran—Herr Jens Petersen, the West German ambassador to Tehran, was shot at 30 times while driving in the northern part of the city but escaped injury because his car is bullet-proof, he said after the attack.

"I think the democrats are going to win a lot of victories in Congress this year," Mr Thomas O'Neill, the Speaker of the House, said.

Call to arms, page 6

Maurey moderate, page 6

Thousands of pictures, millions of miles, photographs by Freddie Reed, National Centre of Photography, 1838-1938, Carlisle Museum and Art Gallery, Carlisle 9 to 5.

Japanese Festivals, an exhibition for children about Japanese life and traditions, Hadrian Castle Museum, 10am-4pm, Andrews Drive, Glasgow, 10 to 5.15.

Vladimir Mayakovsky, twenty years of work, Fruit Market Gallery, 29 Market Street, Edinburgh, 10 to 5.30.

Princess Alexandra visits the Charterhouse-in-Southwark Mis-

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Exhibitions

The British Worker, photographs of working life, 1838-1938, Carlisle Museum and Art Gallery, Carlisle 9 to 5.

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Books

The Times list is based on trade sales through Hammar's to 400 bookshops and verified retail sales through eight Hammar's bookshops and 20 others.

The Pound

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: silver and plate, 11; Christie's, King Street: English and Continental glass, 11; Christie's, New Bond Street: drawings and watercolours, 11; Christie's, South Kensington: old and modern jewelry, 2; Oriental and Islamic textiles and costume, 2. Phillips, Beaconsfield: furniture, carpets and objets d'art, 11; antiques and modern jewelry, 11. Sotheby's, Bond Street: books, 11 and 23.

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: European oil paintings, 9 to 12; English and Continental furniture, 9 to 7; ceramics and drawings, 9 to 7; ceramics and works of art, 5.30 to 7. Christie's, King Street: Russian and Greek icons; objects of art; Continental furniture, 11; English and modern jewelry, 9 to 11. Sotheby's, Bond Street: books, 11 and 23.

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Solution of Puzzle No 15,750

Auctions

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